

## Mr Carter defeated over import tax on oil

President Carter seeking to reinstate a 10 cents a gallon import tax on oil has been overridden by both the House of Representatives. Mr Carter's defeat but said he could not express his decision "without expressing my regret".

## Houses kill Bill despite veto

A couple of hours later when the President's veto message went before the House of Representatives it was greeted with a mixture of whistles, hisses and sarcastic comments. The veto was overridden without debate by a margin of nearly 10-1.

During earlier debates in both houses of Congress on the bill, opponents of the tax argued that such a measure would be highly inflationary and unpopular during an election year. Mr Carter and his few supporters in Capitol Hill on this issue said the tax would cut American oil consumption by 100,000 barrels a day, would raise \$10,000m (£4,300m) in revenue next year to help balance the federal budget.

After today's vote, Senator Robert Byrd, the leader of the Democrats in the Upper House, described the outcome as "unhappy". Mr Thomas O'Neill, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who also supported the tax, yesterday urged Mr Carter to send a signal to America's European allies that he was doing everything he could for energy conservation. The President's veto was designed to do just that.

Nevertheless the congressional decision to kill the tax will undoubtedly make it more difficult for Mr Carter when he meets his Western allies in Venice later this month to discuss worldwide energy conservation.

Mr Reagan mends fences with Mr Ford, page 5

## Heseltine retreat on office auction

By John Witherow  
Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, last night reversed a decision to auction the government-owned headquarters of the publishers George Allen and Unwin, and offered to sell them the building privately.

The change of policy came after a long struggle by the publishing house to repurchase their building in Museum Street, Bloomsbury, London, free from competition with big property companies.

Mr Heseltine's decision will be seen as endorsing the precedent of the Crichton Down case of 1954, which established that the Government should offer requisitioned property to the original owner at market value before putting it up for public sale.

Allen and Unwin tried last year to repurchase the building, which was requisitioned by the Government in 1963 as part of a site for the extension of the British Library, now to be built in Euston Road.

But they were told that the Crichton Down precedent applied only to farm land, and that they had no right to buy the building privately. The property, acquired by the firm in 1914, was put up for auction on July 3.

There followed a long dispute between Allen and Unwin and several government departments, including correspondence with Mr Heseltine before the minister reversed his decision.

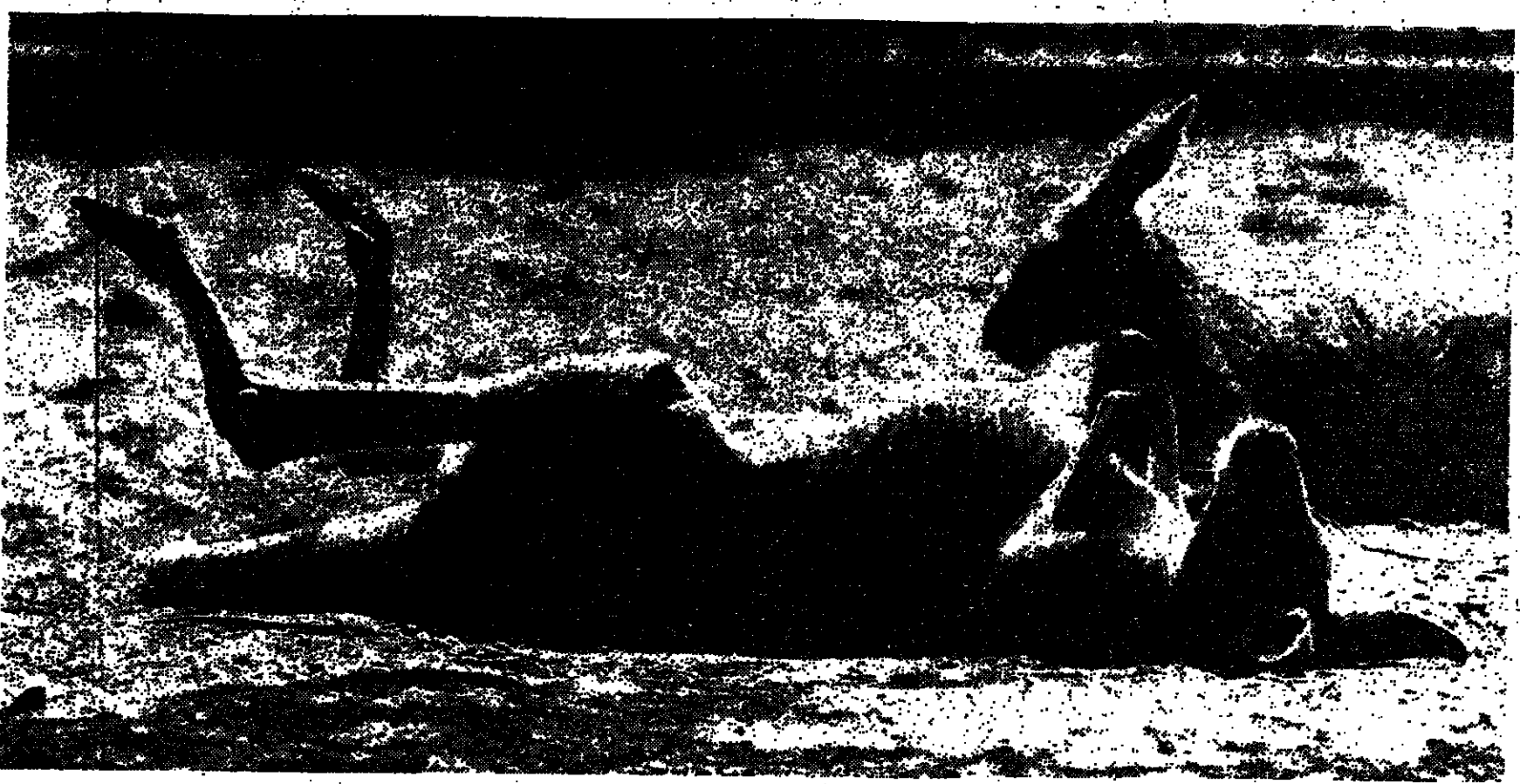
In a letter to Mr Rayner Unwin, chairman of the firm, Mr Heseltine said: "Your case is one which has caused me considerable concern, in that it raises issues of public policy going well beyond the individual's circumstances."

"My consideration of your individual case has led me to the conclusion that the right solution is for you to have the opportunity to buy back the property. . . . This decision does of course open the whole complex question of the disposal of surplus public property."

Mr Heseltine repeated his statement that the Crichton Down precedent applied only to farm land, and said that there were often more difficulties with urban property.

But he stated: "I accept totally that bureaucratic convenience cannot be a reason for denying what are the proper

Continued on page 2, col 3



Too hot for hopping: A red kangaroo indulging in a spot of sunbathing at London Zoo yesterday.

## Threat to close 'Observer' unless print union accepts changes

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

Atlantic Richfield, the American oil company that owns The Observer, is threatening to close publication of the newspaper at the end of this month unless printing trade unionists accept production changes.

The sanction of closure has been raised in negotiations with the National Graphical Association (NGA) on new technology and a move to a 64-page paper printed in one shift. But an original deadline for agreement of June 15 is understood to have been put back to July 1.

If a deal has not been reached by that date, the print workers' negotiators say, Atlantic Richfield will call an end to its £20m investment and sever all connections.

The shutdown threat was confirmed by Mr George Jerrom, national officer of the NGA.

He said last night: "We are still negotiating in a responsible manner with the management in London to reach an agreement that will keep the paper on the streets. If anything, now that on June 15 it will be the

intransigent decision of Atlantic Richfield to close it down on that deadline."

Talks with NGA national officials took place last week, and further discussions are being held in house before a "final" top-level exchange on June 30, regarded by the union as the crucial day of decision.

Mr Jerrom said of the deadline: "We don't accept that sort of thing. We didn't agree it at The Times. We will continue to negotiate as long as possible to reach agreement with The Observer."

At issue between management and the NGA is a shift from partial midweek printing and the use of new technology. "We have all been attempting over the past months to negotiate an agreement for the production of The Observer using new technology in the composing room and adapted technology in the machine room, using the normal industrial negotiations procedures that we would adopt anywhere else," said Mr Jerrom.

Agreement has been reached on many levels in the machine room for a new

method of production, which could involve some Friday night printing, but a deal on wage rates is still outstanding. "The management says the end of the road has been reached," the NGA national officer added. "We are not convinced of this."

In the composing room, The Observer is seeking a shift to electronic photocomposition but with a continuing contribution from traditional hot-metal systems, and here the union has put counter proposals.

While no official comment was forthcoming, it was made clear in management last night that Atlantic Richfield felt it could not go on for ever pouring money into The Observer.

Its losses were reported at £60,000 a week.

The newspaper's circulation currently is estimated at 1,100,000 a week.

There is also anxiety that Atlantic Richfield might suddenly decide to cut off its cash lifeline, and the print unions are with some difficulty withholding their strong criticisms of the labour relations style of a multinational oil company.

## Interest rates pledge by Mrs Thatcher

By Caroline Atkinson

The Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer yesterday defended the Government's delay in cutting interest rates. But they confirmed that interest rates will come down, as part of the Government's strategy, even though the timing of a fall remains uncertain.

In a speech to town hall accountants, Sir Geoffrey Howe also delivered a severe warning to local authorities that they must control their spending or the Government will take action against them.

The Chancellor gave a clear indication that the Government intends to hold down public sector wages in the coming pay round.

"It is difficult to believe that the substantial differences in job security between private sector and public services employment have yet been sufficiently reflected in pay differentials," he said.

The batch of ministerial speeches yesterday, including the ones from Mr John Biffen, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, and Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, reaffirmed the Government's commitment to its economic policies.

Speaking at the opening of a new JCI plant in Cheshire, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said that the Government could not "reduce interest rates without regard to what is happening to money supply."

But she added: "We are holding the Government's spending and borrowing. What we need now is confidence that money growth is really coming down. It will then be possible for interest rates to be reduced."

High interest rates meant that a disproportionate burden is falling on British industry, according to the Chancellor. But higher interest rates have been necessary to curb the demand for money.

Ministers called for lower pay settlements to help bring down inflation with as little pain as possible. Mrs Thatcher gave

warning that high pay settlements meant more unemployment.

She agreed that industry had lost competitiveness and said that companies must look to their own costs. Companies should not pay out more than they could afford in wages and salaries.

Mr John Biffen rejected pay policy as a means of controlling inflation. "Speaking last night to a Conservative Party meeting he said that the Government's taxation, spending, borrowing and monetary policies provide the framework for prices and incomes to move."

Pay and price controls "deal with the symptoms and not the causes of inflation," he said. However, the Government should have a view on the wages of its own employees, the Chief Secretary added.

Both he and the Chancellor hinted at tighter control of public sector wages in the coming round.

Mrs Thatcher responded to industry's complaints about the strong pound by telling companies that they must learn to live with it. "The level of sterling is a fact of life," she said.

"The Government cannot get it down by buying foreign exchange and pumping money into the system because this would undermine our whole strategy for getting inflation under control."

Local authority spending is the Achilles heel of the Government's policy to restrict public spending and borrowing. But Sir Geoffrey Howe said that the Government is not prepared to sit back and see local authority spending run away.

Without spelling out what ministers might decide to do to authorities who overspend, Sir Geoffrey left little doubt that some action to penalise them, possibly through selective reductions in the rate support grant, from central to local government, would be introduced if their spending continued unabated this year.

## Mission to explore Palestinian issue

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government of Britain produce the issue that is explicit than on Palestinian will be "even if it will again be support for a co-existence within as defined by the Security Council No. 242."

Liberation will not be formed as the only of the Pales will be men-

tioned as a party that has to be associated with any negotiations on the issue.

Most European governments, however, have accepted that there is no point in proposing a new draft resolution in the Security Council if the Americans are going to veto it. But they reserve the right to come up with a draft resolution at a later stage.

Mr Biffen, who is acutely aware of the need to do something to convince the Arabs that there is real sympathy for their case in the West; they know that statements alone by now cut little ice.

But few European governments have any positive ideas about what they can do, given that America, as Israel's military and economic backer, holds all the cards in its hands. Consequently, they seem to be seiz-

ing gratefully on the British suggestion of an attempt to sound the views of all parties, with a view to preparing the ground for a solution which, in any case, unlikely to be reached overnight.

The object of this mission, as described by one of its keenest proponents, is to "ask some quite fundamental questions, such as 'what exactly do you mean by self-determination? Would the Palestinians in Kuwait take part in it?'"

The hope is that from the answers to questions of this sort would develop "something not absolutely incapable of resolution." It is acknowledged that this would take a long time. Indeed, that is seen as one of its virtues: it would give the Americans time to get "back in business."

The British approach appar-

ently has the blessing of President Sadat of Egypt who has sent two high-level missions to London in the past fortnight.

The PLO would clearly be among the parties that the mission would want to talk to, in the hope of getting them to commit themselves to positions on the basis of which other parties would be prepared to negotiate.

For this reason if no other British ministers do not want to be directly involved in the mission. Britain has still not accepted regular ministerial contacts with the PLO.

They would also like a little more time to test the worth of a promise given by the PLO last November that it would not in future give any help to the IRA. So far as is known this promise has been kept.

## Nurses retain their no-strike policy

By Annabel Ferriman  
Health Services Correspondent

The Royal College of Nursing, which represents 165,000 nurses, reaffirmed yesterday its policy of not taking industrial action but agreed to hold a ballot to find members' views.

At an extraordinary council meeting which lasted five hours there was no industrial action which would not adversely affect patients.

Nurses are to be asked to endorse both the college's policy against strikes and against any form of industrial action. If more than two thirds of the membership refuse to do so, the college's annual general meeting in October will take steps to amend the constitution.

Yesterday's meeting was called after a unanimous vote by the annual conference in Harrogate last month for a ballot. Nurses were angry about their pay award in relation to the doctors.

The council gave a warning yesterday that although it was opposed to industrial action, it should not be seen by the Government as a "soft target."

"It is to test the sincerity of the Government by taking up its offer of talks to establish a fair and lasting solution to the perennial injustice to nurses' pay," a statement said. Successive Conservative governments "had repeatedly taken nurses' services for granted and exploited their devotion to duty."

Referring to claims by the Government that both nurses and doctors had received about 65 per cent over the past two years, it said: "This Government has even gone to the extreme of putting about misleading percentages in their pay comparisons in order to sustain their case."

Miss Catherine Hall, general secretary of the college, said that the council had agonized over industrial action.

The council felt it had no chance of getting more than 14 per cent in the present pay round.

It was "outraged" by the disclosures in The Times yesterday that the Government had not been comparing like figures in the case of doctors and nurses.

"We think that this is iniquitous. The figures used by the Government were adverse to the interests of nurses and we will be making our feelings clear to the ministers concerned."

The Department of Health and Social Security disclosed on Thursday that it had compared the increase in the total nurses' bill over the past two years with the increase in the average doctors' pay. Both came to about 65 per cent.

But the average nurses' pay had increased by only 58.5 per cent. They received 9 per cent in April, 1979, 19.6 per cent from Clegg, a cut in hours worth 6.7 per cent and were now offered 14 per cent. That came to 58.5 per cent when compounded.

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RAR's action the mutinous taken to the prison where for refusing to long those dis-

ciplined were men who had formed part of the guard of honour during Zimbabwe's independence celebrations in April.

This incident was the most serious of a series of cases of indiscipline which have retarded attempts to amalgamate Zania and Zibra guerrilla units with the regular security forces. There have been innumerable cases of individual guerrillas refusing to take orders from regular officers and NCOs. There has also been continuous friction between Zania men loyal to Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, and Zibra supporters

of Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Minister of Home Affairs.

The disappointing progress in amalgamating the three forces explains why Mr Mugabe has asked Britain to send more men to assist with the training and integration of the new army. It was announced yesterday that the British advisory and training team in Zimbabwe is to be built up from its present level of 58 men to around 130 by October. The first additional British personnel are due to arrive at the beginning of next month.

The problem of integrating and at the same time reducing

## Rank group to pull out of film production

The Rank Organisation, one of the pioneers of the British film industry, is ending film production.

A spokesman for the group said last night that the decision was for "economic reasons". He said: "We have seen inflation and interest rates climbing. As a consequence it now takes too long to recoup money on films."

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## Public-owned press seen as union aim

Public ownership of the press "under democratic management and control" is to be urged as a constitutional objective of the largest printing union; the 205,000-member Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, at its policy-making conference this week-end.

## Rebels free captives

New Hebrides Government officials and police are being freed by the rebels on the island of Espiritu Santo. A broadcast by the French Resident suggested that French opposition to the use of force against the rebels is hardening. He condemned the blockade of Espiritu Santo.

## Genscher battle call

Herr Genscher, the leader of West Germany's Free Democrats, warned his party's pre-election congress that they would have to fight a two-front battle in October if the party and the three-party system of the country were to survive. He was trying to revive FDP spirits after a recent state election defeat.

## More companies put up petrol prices

British Petroleum, Esso and other oil companies have followed the lead given by Shell and raised wholesale petrol prices. The increases, prompted by a rise in crude oil prices, will put another 3p on a gallon at the pumps.

## West Indies ahead

England's bowlers persevered, but dropped catches enabled the West Indies to edge into the lead by the end of the second day of the Cornhill Test at Nottingham. Richards was the top scorer with 64 runs out of 270 for 7.

## Convey risk warning

People on Canvey Island, Essex, faced a 20 per cent increase in the chance of accident if a proposed oil refinery were built, a United States expert told an inquiry.

## Rabbi's detention plea rejected

Appeals by Rabbi Meir Kahane and one of his associates in the extreme right-wing Kach movement against detention orders were rejected by Israel's Supreme Court. The judge said the plea in which they were involved was too serious for the appeal to be considered.

## Thailand: Three months after its national salvation" is beginning to lose some of its gloss

Delhi: Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, has rejected suggestions that her son Sanjay be appointed chief minister in Uttar Pradesh.

## Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 4, 23, 24; Appointments, 10, 23; Property, 10; Home and garden, 23

## Prince backs skills

Britain had to improve the status of engineers and encourage those with skills in manufacturing if industry was to be regenerated successfully, the Prince of Wales said.

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'hristie, aged 30, an 1. South African ist, sentenced to 10 month in Pretoria rism Act. He was on to pass details of an energy plans, ayout of the country's power station, to the a National Congress

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### GROWING INCOME PLUS CAPITAL GROWTH

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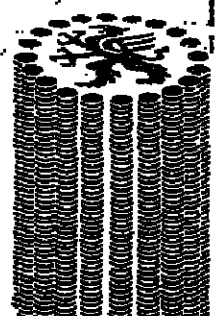
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## HOME NEWS

## Print union urged to work for public ownership of press

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

Leaders of the largest printing union are being urged to adopt public ownership of the press as a constitutional objective.

The proposal is contained in the agenda for the policy-making conferences of the 205,000-member Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat) which opens in Blackpool tomorrow.

The Scottish Graphical Division wants a change in the rule book so that the objects which the society is established to take in a desire "to work for the public ownership of the press under democratic management and control".

The issue also appears in the policy section of the agenda, with London Central branch seeking a conference expression of concern "at the continued development towards further monopolization of the press and the media".

Sogat men in Fleet Street demand a newspaper subsidy to be financed within the industry and by Government to prevent further closure of titles. They also seek an examination of the industry to ensure a "more equitable distribution" of advertising to newspapers and journals.

Scottish print craftsmen also suggest that delegates express their disgust at "the smear campaign conducted by the press designed to distort the truth and mislead the public".

on the activities of trade unions.

Their motion continues: "Conscious of our special responsibilities as trade unionists in the print industry, and in order to combat this type of campaign, we demand the democratic right of reply in the press."

Sogat's executive would further be instructed to pursue this idea in a concerted campaign with other unions.

On the changing industrial techniques of the industry, Sogat delegates are asked by London Central to insist that new technology be introduced only on the basis of full consultation with, and the agreement of, trade unions and workers concerned.

The motion added that the conference should condemn the attitude adopted by Times Newspapers Ltd, and others, and "calls for an active campaign to ensure that the fruits of new technology are passed on to the workers".

Plan abandoned: Express Newspapers announced last night that they had abandoned plans to transmit pages of the Scottish Daily Express and the Daily Star to Inverness (the Press Association reports).

Talks with Sogat, which opposed facsimile transmission into Scotland, had made no progress in the past 12 months. The company had hoped to print to 25,000 copies under contract with Northpress Ltd, where all jobs would be lost. A receiver had been called in.

## Investment warning over aid to regions

From Tim Jones  
Swansea

The Government was told yesterday that investments worth millions of pounds could be lost to Britain unless it rethinks proposals to end regional development grants and other incentives to attract industry to declining areas.

The warning came from Mr Anthony Shadforth, chairman of Inco Europe, speaking at the inauguration of the company's £10m high technology plant at Clydach, near Swansea.

Mr Shadforth said government aid had provided about £4m towards the project. He added: "This, as you will appreciate, was a significant contribution. I have made it clear how important it was to us."

"Therefore I think that, without appearing ungrateful, I can also say that if Clydach should cease to be eligible for regional development grants it would be a cause for serious concern."

"It must affect in some measure future investment decisions."

Although the company would make no official statement it is understood they are considering whether to invest another £20m to £30m in South Wales.

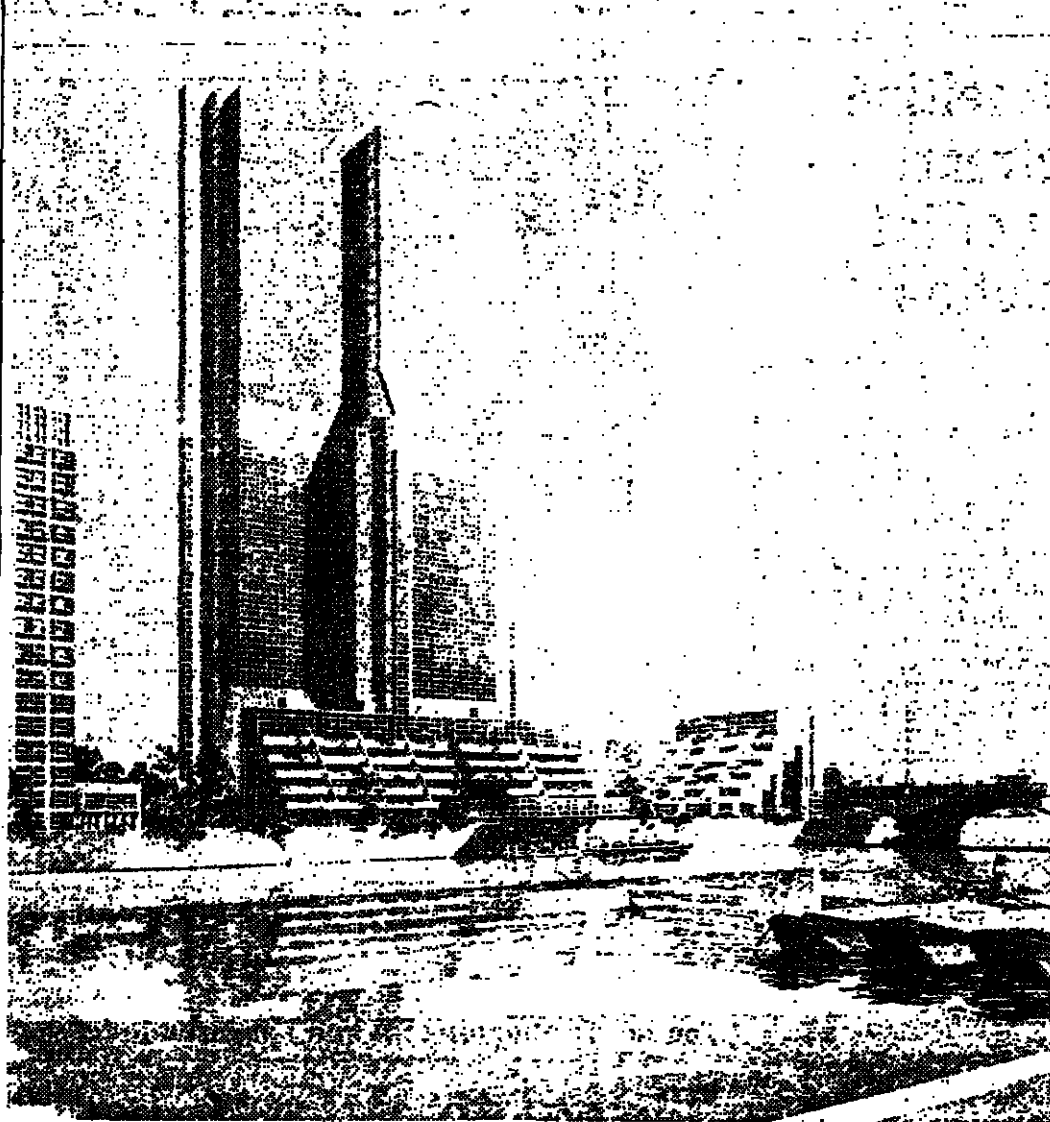
Mr Shadforth's remarks follow warnings from both sides of industry in Wales that to withdraw the incentives at a time of industrial decline would stifle growth and increase unemployment in the principality.

Increasing unit production costs at Clydach, with high United Kingdom inflation rates, a strong currency and productivity difficulties, threatened future investment decisions by his multinational company, Mr Shadforth said.

The Clydach company was a microcosm of the difficulties facing the nation. Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, indicated that the Government was reconsidering its decision to withdraw regional aid from much of Britain.

He said: "We are reviewing the areas affected by regional policy in the light of the steel redundancies and other job losses."

One of the proposed enterprise zones where new industries would be attracted by special incentives could be at Swansea, he said.



An artist's impression of the building, at the south end of Vauxhall Bridge.

## Green giant objectors fear failure

By Frances Gibb

Campaigners against the "Green Giant" tower block planned for the south bank of the Thames, expect it to win planning approval when Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announces his decision in the next few weeks.

The Friends of Chelsea, leading opponents of the scheme, are seeking an urgent meeting with Lord Bellwin, an under-secretary at the Department of the Environment, after unfavourable reports that Mr Heseltine is likely to support the developers.

The decision will be based on the findings of the department's inspector who chaired

the public inquiry on the proposed 540m high tower, nicknamed the "Green Giant".

Lady Wynne-Jones, chairman of the Friends of Chelsea, said yesterday: "Even if this decision has provisionally been made, it is not too late still to do something."

If the block went ahead, it would be "disastrous" for London, she said. "It will be death to the city; the greatest tragedy you can imagine. The identity of the city will be completely lost."

Another opponent of the scheme, Lord Duncan-Sandys, chairman of the Civic Trust, said that if approved, "this vast glass slab would become one of the dominant features of London."

"But not for long," he added. "For, once this 'project' is approved, it would be virtually impossible to refuse planning permission for a succession of more and more similar giants, all along the river, thus turning the Thames into little more than a gutter between a con-

tinuous row of high rise blocks."

The 540m high tower, nicknamed the "Green Giant", inaccurately because it is to be made of tinted (not green) glass, will consist of flats, offices and exhibition space at the south end of Vauxhall Bridge, opposite the Tate Gallery.

The building has been proposed by European Ferries, the property and shipping company, whose executive chairman is Mr Keith Wickenden, a Conservative MP for Dorset.

The block, which will include 100,000 square feet of flats and about 370,000 square feet of offices as well as exhibition space, has aroused widespread opposition, not only from local groups, but from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sir John Beresford, and Henry Moore, the sculptor.

It has been praised by Sir Peter Shepherd, the leading architect, who said it would be one of the most distinguished high-rise buildings in London.

## Stop criticizing lea Labour MP demand

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Reporter

Labour's internal disputes were fuelled further yesterday when Mr William Rodgers, shadow defence minister, said that those who should know better should "stop criticising the parliamentary leadership and treating MPs like traitors within the gate."

Mr Rodgers, an experienced and adept campaigner when it comes to party infighting, gave no names but Mr Wedgwood Benn and those who support his policies could not have been far from his thinking.

"I find it difficult to understand how anyone who has served as a Labour MP for many years could wish to minimize the contribution of his parliamentary colleagues," Mr Rodgers said at a meeting of the Midstone Constituency Labour Party.

To despise the role of MPs and the leadership they choose is to despise Parliament itself.

Mr Rodgers, who has said that he would consider his position within the party on the outcome of what happened at the annual conference, said that there was a plain choice for the party.

He set out the historical position where none of the three elements, annual conference, national executive committee and Parliamentary Labour Party, should dominate

the other, and asked this long-standing r

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## Minister challenged on poverty wages claims

By Our Political Reporter

Assertions made by Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, regarding wage payments by British companies in South Africa were "utterly untrue simply as matters of fact," Mr Michael Meacher, a Labour MP, said yesterday.

Commenting on an interview Mr Nott gave on BBC News Night Mr Meacher, member for Oldham, West, said in a letter to the Secretary of State, that there were at least four matters in his statement "which as a member of the last Government I wish to nail and for which a clear apology is owed from you."

Mr Meacher states: "You said, 'My predecessors never published a list of names (of companies) paying below the poverty datum line'. Untrue. We did so on February 15, 1979."

"You said, 'I have published every bit as much information as the previous Government'. Untrue. The simple fact is that the Labour Government did publish the names of companies paying below PDL and we did also publish the list of companies which had not provided adequate reports. You have refused to do either."

"In that case," writes, "how do you explain the fact that when Government published names last time the companies which failed to provide reports, yet for there are only 19 this time round while published reports?"

"You said, 'It is different from the last Government. The last Government all the chairmen companies in South Africa were strongly urged the EEC to do. You have made no effort.'"

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## Isle of Grain peace formula takes shape

By Our Labour Editor

A formula to end the long and bitter inter-union dispute at the Isle of Grain power station site began to take shape last night.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, is to lead talks between the unions and the Central Electricity Generating Board on Monday after day long discussions between the warring unions at Congress House.

No details of the suggested peace formula was disclosed but it is apparently designed to safeguard the earnings potential of the laggards in dispute.

Mr Murray said: "Some progress has been made, and the meeting has been adjourned while urgent discussions take place between the general secretary of the TUC, the general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers Union and the Central Electricity Generating Board."

In the discussions the unions will put to the generating authorities, whose management

refused to attend yesterday's talks, the tentative plan to end the 10-month-old dispute at the £560m construction site in Kent over wages for laggards who are thermal insulation engineers.

Shop stewards representing the 27 laggards who lobbied the talks were sceptical about the prospect of successful negotiations with the CEGB and promised that the picket line at Grain would be stepped up next week.

They claim that 95 per cent of lorries destined to deliver materials to the site are turning back with no approach.

Employers, at the site have been training members of unions other than the GMWU, to which the laggards belong, to do their jobs, and the bus-ing of those men on to the site met with violence at a mass picket line.

The GMWU has threatened a national strike of laggards in Britain's power stations and on power station construction sites from June 16 if the dispute is not settled under TUC auspices.

## TUC to back musicians

By Martin Huckerby  
Music Reporter

The Trades Union Congress has offered its support to the Musicians Union in its dispute with the BBC over the disbanding of five orchestras.

The union said yesterday that at a meeting between Mr John Morton, its general secretary, and Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, it was agreed that the TUC would issue a circular to its affiliated unions asking them "to render every practicable assistance" to the musicians.

The circular is a request rather than an instruction, and individual unions must decide whether they will take action against the BBC; the Transport

and General Workers' Union and the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs are already giving help.

The BBC said six programmes on Radio 3 yesterday, including the evening concert from Amsterdam, had been cancelled because of the dispute.

The programmes, to have lasted five hours, had been replaced by records.

It also announced the cancellation of the opening concert in the BBC International Festival of Light Music, to have taken place at the Festival Hall and Purcell Room tonight. Ticket costs will be refunded.

## Heart patient's condition is still serious

By Annabel Ferriman  
Health Services Correspondent

Mr Andrew Paterson, aged 22, Britain's twentieth heart transplant patient, showed some improvement yesterday, but was still considered seriously ill.

Mr Paterson, a Conservative Party agent from Coddall, near Wolverhampton, received a new heart in an operation at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge, on Wednesday.

The hospital said yesterday that he was off the breathing machine and had taken some fluid by mouth. His level of consciousness had also improved and he could understand what was being said to him.

## Sex change on birth certificate barred

By Lucy Hodges

Miss April Ashley, the man who became a woman and went through a celebrated divorce case in 1970, has been told that she cannot change the sex entered on her birth certificate.

She will be taking a complaint to the European Commission of Human Rights demanding the right to be described as female on her birth certificate, and the right to marry.

Her case is being handled by the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCCL), who discussed her case with civil servants this week.

Miss Ashley said yesterday that it was degrading that she was not able to change the certificate. "The fact that I have proved that I have been a woman for the past 20 years

and that I have been a very happy person for that time shows that they should catch up with events."

The Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys said in a letter that there was no provision in law here to change the certificate, which must be a true copy of the entry on the birth register.

Miss Ashley is likely to be joined in her appeal to the European Commission by Mr Nicholas Mason, a woman who went through a sex change. He is considering applying to be ordained in the Church of England but cannot so long as he is described as a woman on his birth certificate.

The two applicants are hoping to bring English law into line with a recent ruling by the

European Commission which found in favour of a Belgian transsexual.

Britain is, however, unlikely to change the Births and Deaths Regulations Act 1953 until and unless it was found to be in contravention of a British case. Britain lags behind many other countries in this area. South Africa, for example, allows transsexuals' birth certificates to be changed and permits them to marry.

Mr Barry Prothero, of the NCCCL, yesterday called on the Home Office to change its policy and to bring it into line with the recent European ruling.

The present policy is that people's privacy because they often had to produce birth certificates when applying for jobs.

The number of cases of other people in Bloomsbury who have tried to repurchase their old property is uncertain. Mr Frank Dobson, Labour MP for Camden, Holborn and St Pancras, South, who has taken an interest in the case, said he believed "there are several other similar cases, although not necessarily in this area."

Mr Dobson had earlier tabled three parliamentary questions for next Wednesday. In the final one, he asked Mr Heseltine why his department had confined the Crichton Down precedent to agricultural land.

## Police question woman friend of Broadmoor man

Police in Crewe were yesterday questioning a woman aged 18 in the hope she could give them a clue to the whereabouts of a potentially dangerous Broadmoor patient.

Robert Demoulied, aged 33, disappeared after failing to return to the high-security hospital in Berkshire from a month's pre-release parole. He was due back on May 31 but absconded from his hostel in Reading with Miss Amanda Jane Gudmensen.

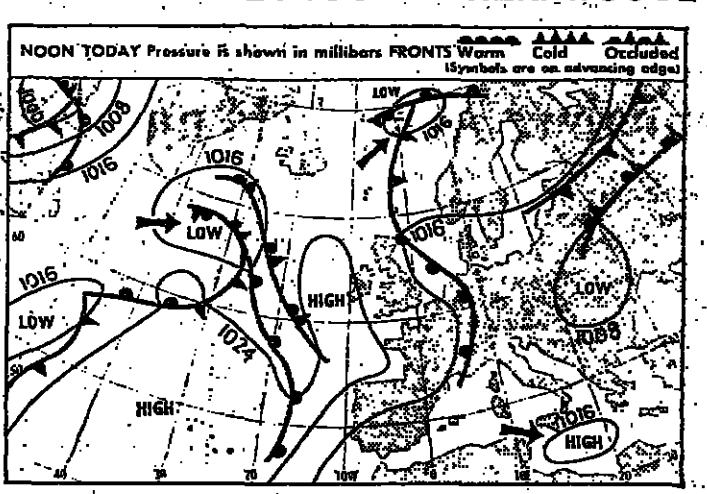
Thames Valley police said they hoped Miss Gudmensen could give them some idea of where Mr Demoulied may be. She had been staying in another hostel in Reading and was befriended by the runaway patient who was sent to Broadmoor nine years ago for killing a man.

The hearing was adjourned until Monday.

At the National Theatre on Monday a young actor called Simon Callow, who plays Mozart in *Amadeus*, will take to the stage alone in a fascinating experiment. Dressed in a suit of fustian and illuminated only by a wedge of light, he will give 50 of Shakespeare's sonnets in about as many minutes. Next month he will give all but five of the entire sequence of 154 sonnets from memory.

The National believes that Callow's sonnets will give people a unique chance to look into the innermost thoughts of our greatest writer. It is the only occasion on which he speaks nakedly as "I" to us. In *The Sunday Times* tomorrow, Godfrey Smith examines the sonnets for a glimpse into Shakespeare's soul.

## Weather forecast and recordings



Today	Tomorrow
Sun rises: 4.45 am Moon rises: 2.16 am	Sun rises: 4.45 am Moon rises: 2.16 am
Sun sets: 9.14 pm Moon sets: 2.18 pm	Sun sets: 9.15 pm Moon sets: 2.18 pm
New Moon: June 12	New Moon: June 12
Lighting up: 9.44 pm to 4.15 am	Lighting up: 9.45 pm to 4.14 am
High water: London Bridge, 9.06 am, 6.44 pm, 9.25 pm, 6.40 am	High water: London Bridge, 10.22 am, 6.51 pm, 11.50 pm, 6.47 am
Low water: London Bridge, 2.07 am, 1.20 am, 2.41 pm, 10.9 pm	Low water: London Bridge, 2.31 am, 1.20 am, 2.41 pm, 10.9 pm
5.30 am, 5.30 am, 5.30 am, 5.30 am	5.30 am, 5.30 am, 5.30 am, 5.30 am
8.20 am, 7.16 pm, 8.00 pm	8.20 am, 7.16 pm, 8.00 pm

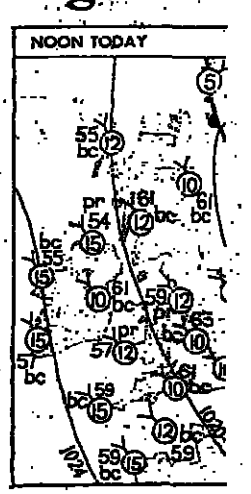
A shower N to NW airstream persists over the British Isles. Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London, SE and central S England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Sunny periods, perhaps isolated showers; wind mostly W, light or moderate; max temp 17° to 20°C (63° to 68°F).

England, Border, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Sunny periods, scattered showers developing; wind W or NW, light or moderate; max temp 16° to 18°C (61° to 64°F).

SW England, S Wales: Sunny intervals, scattered showers, mostly light; wind NW, moderate, becoming fresh at times; max temp 15° to 17°C (59° to 63°F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Rain; S, sun.

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حکومت الاصل











For Thailand the autumn is a particularly sensitive time but I think the Government and the Army. The Army has its annual reshuffle of senior posts which often leads to dissatisfaction which expresses itself in the form of a coup.

But what gives hope that this year's "coup time" will pass without incident is the precedent that was set with the transfer of power from General Kriangsak to General Prem without so much as a cross word.



# Humble and obedient servants

by Hugh Stephenson

## Saturday Review



Prime Ministers and politicians propose, but when they come to dispose of them, they work through the machinery of the permanent Civil Service. This country is unique in the fact that an incoming government is expected to accept as its closest advisers civil servants who were giving politically sensitive advice to its opponents the week before.

It is an extraordinary system and the Civil Service is an extraordinary and a powerful institution. It works on the basis of a constitutional doctrine that does not and cannot correspond to reality. The doctrine is that the country is run by elected politicians and an elected government; that the function of the Civil Service is to provide ministers with information and advice and to present them with a variety of options so that they can come to their policy decisions; and that, once those decisions have been taken, the Civil Service will loyally carry out instructions, even if it disagrees with them. In practice, as every civil servant and every minister knows, and as every incoming government soon discovers, it does not work that way.

In the first place, any institution, above all one made up of such exceptionally able people as the Civil Service, develops a cohesion, continuity, doctrine, loyalty of its own. In the second, the Civil Service is permanent, while ministers come and go, rarely doing the same job for more than a couple of years before moving on or out, or back into Opposition. And, in the third, the volume of business going through the Whitehall machine is so vast and the number of ministers so few that even an insouciant celebrant can only be aware of the smallest part of it. The art of "handling" the Civil Service, thus, is an art of central importance to any senior bureaucrat.

The arrival of Margaret Thatcher's government in the corridors of Whitehall in May 1979 was the biggest job that the Civil Service has ever experienced in living memory. For a while the whole Whitehall system almost visibly juddered. The only recent experience which it could even be compared with was the arrival of Harold Wilson's first government in 1964, when the Civil Service had been required to unthink the habits to which it had become accustomed in 13 continuous years of living with Conservative Ministers.

There had been certain local difficulties and some pyrotechnic episodes on that occasion. The clash between the mercurial Marcia Williams, the Prime Minister's political and personal secretary, and the incumbent Principal Private Secretary at Number 10, Derek Mitchell, resulted in his being banished to the embassy in Washington. The arrival of the remainder of his Civil Service career and has become part of the myth and legend of Whitehall. Normally, however, senior civil servants have a highly tuned sense of what is and what is not "politically possible" for an incoming government and an impressive ability to anticipate "political requirements" even before they have been articulated. The letter and the spirit of an incoming party's manifesto and other pre-election commitments are examined and normally well digested in advance. The problem on this occasion was that, as with a majority of Mrs Thatcher's Shadow Cabinet, the majority of senior civil servants neither understood nor believed in the dogmas of the Prime Minister, and those close about her.

It was a culture shock. The civil administrative grade of the Civil Service in Whitehall has come to think of itself, as the guardian and trustee of national continuity, a self-appointed role that in other politically less stable countries is often assumed by the army. It was now faced with an incoming government that purported to believe in an entirely new model of how the economy

worked and how social policy should be conducted. The Prime Minister and a small group of sympathetic ministers were attempting a revolution, albeit a very peaceful and British one. They were arguing in effect that in the decades since the war the Civil Service had failed in its duties as national trustee, that its ideas and advice had proved bankrupt, that now was the time for an entirely new approach.

The instincts of senior civil servants are opposed to revolution and sudden change. The dominant educational influence on those from whom they recruit their successors is still Oxbridge and the liberal arts. The values of that system impregnate Whitehall completely. It is a tradition that gives absolute pride of place to analysis and criticism, rather than to creative and original work that rates the scientist and the artist, the engineer and the mathematician above the applied mathematician. The grain, indeed, goes even deeper. Senior civil servants, once they have been recruited, for the most part straight out of the universities, live as part of an inbred society, akin in many ways to a monastic order. It has its own rules, priorities and values, quite different from those of other occupations. Within this core, safety and soundness are the main care of the ambitious man or woman. An entrepreneur can fall by his first project and still become a tycoon. A novelist can write a dozen unpublished works before achieving a literary reputation. But a civil servant who makes one serious mistake in a marked man.

Not surprisingly, therefore, the Civil Service is an inherently conservative institution. What is more, very able men with very clear analytical faculties are understandably prone to think that any new suggestion from outside is unlikely to be of merit, because otherwise they would have thought of it themselves. With Mrs Thatcher's government, the critical faculties were understandably stronger because the proposed new ideas were clearly being championed by politicians of very little ministerial experience.

### The cocoon that is spun

Given the likely problems of the relationship between the incoming government and the mandarins of Whitehall, it is surprising that the Thatcher did not decide on some radical experiments in the way in which she proposed to operate the machinery of government. When a Prime Minister enters No. 10, on the day after winning an election, the supportive cocoon of the government machine is rapidly spun about him or her. Unless he or she insists on doing things in a new way from the beginning, the permanent officials are bound to dig deeper into their central and privileged positions.

Since, on the face of it, it was unlikely that civil servants would carry out policies for previous Labour and Conservative governments could say a collective mea culpa and set off energetically in an entirely new direction, most Whitehall watchers expected Margaret Thatcher to make sure that there was a substantial injection of new, politically oriented thinking into Whitehall. From the very start, taking official advice, she did the exact opposite. She accepted a strict construction of the division of roles between politicians and officials and she set about playing the game by the rules of the Whitehall rules.

Looking back on her first year in office, this was almost certainly a mistake from her

point of view, and one which reduced the impact of the policies she was trying to get across. It made her administration in its first year curiously insensitive to the political context in which it had to operate. It partly explains the difficulty, which by the spring of 1980 she was admitting was damaging politically of "getting the message across to the people". It certainly explains the feeling, abroad in Conservative circles by the late summer of 1979, that the Civil Service was somehow obstructing the Government's will.

Mrs Thatcher's first surprising decision was to reduce the size of the non-Civil Service policy unit within Number 10 and substantially to change its role. Under both Wilson and Callaghan, this policy unit had been run by Bernard Donoughue, a political scientist from the London School of Economics. He had direct access to the Prime Minister and a staff that fluctuated between five and nine. Its function was to ask politically motivated questions and provide politically sensitive advice to the Prime Minister, in part to supplement and in part to act as a check against the information and advice coming through the normal Civil Service machine. Donoughue's influence and usefulness were increased by the fact that he was a close personal friend of the Prime Minister and that he had a kind of informal information system, reaching out from Downing Street through the whole of Whitehall. It gave the Prime Minister extra non-Civil Service eyes and ears.

It was widely expected that the Donoughue job under a Thatcher government would go to Adam Ridley, a 38-year-old economist. Donoughue's replacement was to be a person who was not a member of the Opposition's economic policy at the time, then still independent Conservative Research Department. So widespread was this assumption that Donoughue, clearing out his office on the morning after the election, left him a friendly note and a well-wishing bottle of whisky.

But neither the note nor the bottle was to be. Instead, it went instead to John Hoskyns, a 51-year-old, ex-soldier, who had built up and then sold a successful computer consultancy company. He had been introduced to Keith Joseph and Margaret Thatcher some three years before, through the Centre for Policy Studies and had become an increasingly close adviser to Mrs Thatcher in the run-up to the election, particularly on the broad strategy of how policies should be presented. To the annoyance of the Conservative Party, Mrs Thatcher had invited Hoskyns to attend meetings of the Shadow Cabinet before the election. During the election itself, he was much involved in the tactical campaign decisions and, in writing her speeches.

The Hoskyns policy unit, however, was to be a different animal from his Labour predecessor. It was physically removed to a more remote part of No. 10 and Donoughue's old office was occupied instead by David Wolfson, the nephew of Sir Isaac Wolfson, founder of Great Universal Stores, who had come to Mrs Thatcher's attention when he was advising the Conservative Central Office on

the use of computers, and whom she took to No. 10 as her "chief of staff". Wolfson's office became the main conduit by which papers, ideas and requests intended to bypass the Civil Service machine and the official private secretaries could be got to the Prime Minister. In that sense Wolfson became at once a key figure at Mrs Thatcher's court. But he was not concerned as such with the formulation of policy. Indeed the very fact that within a matter of months a senior official described him as "pure gold" was evidence that the Civil Service saw him as an ally and not as a threat. No civil servant ever called Marcia Williams "pure gold" while Harold Wilson was Prime Minister.

### The need for more advisers

In addition Mrs Thatcher had accepted from the start a decision to reduce the number of special and political advisers available to ministers. The Civil Service has always disliked political advisers since 1944, de Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*, published in 1835; and, of course, the old testament of the new economics, Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, first published in 1776 though available, it was indicated in a more recent Penguin edition.

It was an unenviable start, but it was not to last long. By the middle of June his senior civil servants were confident that they had got the guru under control. During the Whitehall arguments about the public spending cuts that preceded the June budget, Sir Keith had been brought round to defending almost all the department's spending programmes. Even with industrial subsidies the argument was that they were necessary because they were available in virtually all our competitor countries seemed to prevail.

Events turned out rather differently at the Treasury. There the assumption by official advisers was that the Treasury team could not possibly adhere to its doctrinaire, pre-election positions once the facts of life had been explained. The shock of the first six months was the discovery that they did indeed intend to carry through a controlled "test to destruction" of the British economy, in order to prove that defeatists within the Treasury were wrong and that there was a possible way, within a reasonably short time, out of the vicious cycle in which we seemed to be caught. And, if Sir Douglas W. Wass, the Permanent Secretary, seemed to some of his colleagues to be glum at the election result, he had good cause to be so, for his job was in the balance. The reason was a lecture he had given well over a year before, in February, 1978, to a society at Cambridge.

By itself the lecture was not exactly sensational. It had been on the subject of "The Changing Problems of Economic Management" and it looked at the way in which, as seen from the Treasury, these problems had become more complex since 1968, when his predecessor Sir William (now Lord) Armstrong gave a lecture which concluded that "modern

talking further until they understood his approach to these problems, which was that the government should avoid, so far as it could, becoming involved in them.

He told them as a tutor to his students to go away and read or read again, certain works which would make it clear how he wanted them to approach industrial policy. His reading list included 29 items. Nineteen of them were pamphlets either from his Centre for Policy Studies or from the Institute of Economic Affairs. These included contributions by Sam Brittan of the *Financial Times* and Peter Jay, formerly economics editor of *The Times*. Eight had either been written or edited by himself, including a paper entitled *Solving the Union Problem: Is the Key to Britain's Recovery*. There was a short pamphlet by Colin Clark on *The Political Economy of a Christian Society*, and another, attacking the orthodox American economist Professor J. K. Galbraith, by Sir Frank Macfarlane, who was shortly to help Rolls-Royce in a bitter dispute with the National Enterprise Board. To give balance to the more ephemeral titles on his reading list, Joseph included a few classic works: Schumpeter's *Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy*, published in 1944; de Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*, published in 1835; and, of course, the old testament of the new economics, Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, first published in 1776 though available, it was indicated in a more recent Penguin edition.

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economic policy has clearly been a success". Wass had rehearsed the ways in which the "almost Victorian optimism among businessmen, bankers, consumers and government officials" about the future of the economy in the 1960s, reflected in the Armstrong lecture, had given way to discord and disagreement about how to resolve our problems. He had then reviewed the pros and cons of various contemporary suggestions about policy. He did so in the measured terms that one would expect from an experienced and wily civil servant, with many qualifications and without coming to any firm conclusions. Few in his audience at the Johnian Society that evening would have thought that they were witnessing a mandarin putting his job on the line.

But that was precisely what he was doing. It is quite unusual for the head of the Treasury to give lectures in public about economic policy and even more unusual for him to seek publicity for such an event. In this case, his lecture was issued as an official Treasury press release. The inference was drawn, correctly, that Wass wished people to read between the lines of what he was saying. The message being transmitted was that the Treasury at official level had severe doubts about whether any of the "new formulae" (that) have been put forward for the resolution of our collective problems" would provide the answer. Effective solutions were much more complicated and elusive than some newcomers to the game might suppose. In particular, it was naive in the modern, integrated world to suppose that one country could solve its problems by itself. Equally, it was grossly inefficient to engage in frequent changes in public sector spending programmes, which should, therefore, not be used to regulate the economy. Above all, for a government to adopt some "arbitrary formula" for deciding what its monetary policy should be without regard to the effect of other aspects of policy would be to risk imposing serious costs upon the economy.

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In the course of the year, there was more of a growing tension between ministers and their civil servants. There is no evidence that Sir Douglas Wass changed his mind on whether the policies will actually work. But he has, with complete justification, done his duty. This was symbolically recognized when he was made Grand Commander of the Order of the Bath in the 1980 New Year's Honours List.

### The money in the system

The context of Wass's speech makes clear its impact. First, the Governor of the Bank of England had shortly before made a speech in which he had edged further in public than ever before towards accepting a "monetarist" formula—the belief that price inflation is caused solely by governments allowing the amount of money in the system to increase too fast, and that it can only be reduced by a steady reduction in the rate at which it is increasing. Secondly, Sir Keith Joseph, Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe in a Conservative Party conference had come to accept this theory as self-evident. Indeed, by the time the Conservative policy document, *The Right Approach to the Economy*, was published in October 1977, it was part of official party policy. After the publicity which the lecture received Sir Geoffrey Howe was widely reported to have been going around town saying that, when they came to office Sir Douglas Wass would have to go.

In practice, if Howe had wanted to get rid of Wass, he would have had to make a move at once. It would in any case never have been easy. It would have been seen as a major assault on the principle of the independence of the Civil Ser-

vice and selecting a replacement for such a senior job would take time. Sir Geoffrey Howe is not that kind of decisive man and the opportunity passed.

The Treasury, however, was in for one serious shock. Howe decided that he would have regular morning "prayer meetings" of the Treasury ministers without officials present. It was a suggestion without precedent at the Treasury and deeply shocking to every civil servant. It means that a very junior minister had for that moment at least more intimate access to the Chancellor than the most senior civil servant. More hurtfully, it implied that there were secret, political things that the Chancellor and his colleagues did not wish to share, even with their closest professional advisers. Something like it had happened before in the Heath government, when Peter Walker had been running the mammoth Department of Trade and Industry. But then his department had been responsible for functions later split into no less than four independent ministries—Trade, Industry, Energy, and Prices and Consumer Affairs. He had no fewer than eight ministers responsible to him and though his Permanent Secretary, Sir Antony Part, had objected violently enough at the time, at least in that case there had been a genuine need for some political co-ordination of a huge and rambling empire.

But the Treasury is different. There are only five ministers, including the Chancellor. It is a small department. The only possible conclusion was that Sir Geoffrey Howe and his colleagues felt themselves to be the prize-crowd of a captured and still potentially troublesome ship, needing to tie together private tactical discussions in order to ensure that they remained in control. Indeed, in those first weeks there was surprisingly little direct contact between Treasury ministers and their civil servants, the more surprising for the fact that most of the early decisions were about the budget and the need for quick public spending cuts where official advice on what could be done was critical.

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As Mrs Thatcher's first year wore on, there were, increasingly, clear signs of the tension between her government and the centre of the Whitehall Civil Service machine. There were, for example, many more press leaks about what was going on than is usual under a Conservative government. The rate of leaks (or openness of government) has tended to increase in any case since the introduction in Whitehall of direct dial exchanges, which mean that someone outside can ring an official's telephone extension directly, without going through a manual switchboard. But the 1979 leak rate was far higher than that, indicating a situation where officials were in many instances deeply unhappy about what was going on and anxious to stop it.

In the same way, officials often adopted a curiously remote form of words when answering questions. Instead of phrases like "the policy is..." or "we are doing it because..." the enquiring journalist heard phrases like "ministers believe that..." and "ministers are operating on the basis of a model which leads them to suppose that..." It all served to indicate that the mandarin class was in a state of suspended disbelief about the

whole nature of the Experiment, and at distance itself from waiting for the pre-emptive force, the meant back to the old. It was had for the Civil Service that the senior Permanent tries like Sir Douglas and Sir Peter C. clearly being reg work their passage new government. If two further reasons Civil Service became about Mrs Thatcher 1979. The first was populist in her response widespread public what was seen as a leged position into Civil Service had itself during the pr years of almost cont comes policy. The s the apparently arbit man that they make about indivi servants.

In her time at it ment of Educati Thatcher had establi relations with her b prior to the elec the election, 100 of officials invited her t office for a farewell most unusual ge respect. Certainly, cher has never objec vents who stand with arguments. On hand, it was quick that, as Prime Min had, a marked pref extroverts and an dency to make up quit someone on d quire to be particu larly, she seems wite "people off" even when in this conf the Whitehall evide their previous caree

### The interest in promotions

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This extract is taken Thatcher's First Year Stephenson, to be pu June 19 3p fill Nor 16.50, (cased), and 224 back.

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## Radio

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David Wade

## A truly fearful life

The Quest for Corvo, by A. J. A. Symons (Penguin, £1.95)

Frederick Rolfe, who called himself by many names but chiefly Baron Corvo, was con- sidered by nearly all who knew him the most remarkable man they had ever met. He was a man of extraordinary artistic, imaginative and conversational qualities, who failed as a teacher, painter, poet, and author. Born in 1860 into a family of Dissenters, he became a Catholic, insisted on his vocation till he died, but was rejected for the priesthood. He took elaborate literary revenge against Roman Catholics and Jesuits in general, and in- dividually against all particular ones he had met.

His life was as weird as his writings. The aesthete who loved fine clothes and manners lived in the closest of but rounded by rats, in the bottom of a stinking boat in Venice, in complete poverty and his clothes unchanged for eighteen months. The Catholic so pious that he had his brushes blessed before beginning to paint, he is re- vealed by his letters "as a patron of that homosexual underworld which exists in every city," a pitiless seducer of Venetian innocents. The storyteller to whom children listened in wide-eyed delight, was the man who cursed every person who befriended him. Driven by fear and spite, para- noid, insolvent and litigious, his dealings with friends and bene- factors were drenched in venomous malignancy, and his writings rancid with libel.

One famous family escaped his corrosive satire the Borgias. In "Chronicles of the House of Borgia" he more or less acted as counsel for the defence, though he himself dissembled. "The writer does not write with the object of white-washing the House of Borgia; his present opinion being that all men are too vile for words to tell." But he did find Lucrezia a "pearl among women", and came to the conclusion that "these Borgia could no more poison artistically than they could send telegrams."

Corvo died in 1913, and it was not till the mid-1920s that A. J. A. Symons first heard of him, from the equally eccentric Christopher Millard, a literary recluse living in a bungalow in St. John's Wood. Millard was a Jacobite who acknow- ledged Prince Rupert of Bavaria as his rightful sovereign, but later took to singing the "Red Flag" very loudly in quiet country inns. Millard provided copies of Corvo's letters from Venice to an unnamed correspondent, and as he read them Corvo's eventual biographer felt his "begin to rise." Here was an unwitting account, step by step, of the destruction of a soul... at account in language that outlasts nothing, of the criminal delights that waited for the ignoble sensualist to whom they were addressed. Only lack of money, it appeared, prevented the writer from enjoying an existence compared with which Neru's was "unexciting", praiseworthy, and unexciting.

The horror, the sheer hideous- ness of Corvo's last years could not be reconciled with the luminous qualities of his prose and imagination. Symons set off on his biographical quest, and in time unearthed every word by Frederick William Seligman, Austin Lewis Mary Rolfe.

His quarry lived a truly fearful life, and died a fearful death. In his own words: "I am rotting in my chains, and Nature only looks in at my

## Sybil of the Greeks

The Praise Singer by Mary Renault (Corgi, £1.25)

A sunlit coast, a brilliant blue sky, great mountains coming down to the sea—a fitting back- ground for a writer whose his- torical novels are set in the Greek world. It is a unique idea to radio: it is a unique idea to cast a solo violin, in the and some of the situa- which the characters selves were nicely way that the world ne (eg Mr Pettigrew in the ventilation but none of this was o make me look, for another run.

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David Wade

prison window, and passes by. Most of icy indifference en- closes me, no one touches me where I can feel. I am alone— alone." He died, like the Mayor of Casterbridge, knowing that every man's hand was against him.

John Graham

## Fighting back

Prick Up Your Ears, by John Lahr. (Penguin, £1.50)

Joe Orton has all the pre- requisites for an easy passage into posterity: he showed promise and modest achieve- ment in his brief career; he was courted by the most fashionable of his time; his personal life was unconventional and he was unashamed; and perhaps most important of all, he died young in gruesome cir- cumstances.

Orton therefore demanded a more than routine biography to make his short life fascinating, his accomplishments worthy of posthumous respect and his wretched death appear more than a lover's gift. To this end, John Lahr has done Orton's memory proud. His book, named after the next play on Orton's prematurely truncated writing schedule, is an unsensational yet wholly gripping account of Orton's world.

The descriptions are so graphic and the scenes of Orton's picaresque love life so grim and grubby that the book is also a weary guide to the less gay side of homosexual life. Lahr does not argue that it was Orton's sexuality which made him such a good dramatist, but adds it to the other qualities which made him an outsider in his own land, capable of seeing the follies and foibles of the English so clearly.

Lahr confirms what Orton claimed, that his work was a ruthless satire on the decaying and viciousness of respectable life. But Orton knew little of respectability. He wrote about what he knew, the trivialities and self-deluding rituals of the working class, based upon his mother, and the uncomfortable agony of the sexual deviant, from his personal experience.

His plays were, rather, a view of British life seen from below or from beyond the pale. Such a wonderfully sinister comic creation as Inspector Truscott, the mad sleuth from Looe, allowed Orton to fight back against the little men policing the status quo. Other targets were those who believed in notions of sexual normality and the hopeless and inarticulate, whose ranks Orton had only recently left, and the humorous ambiguities of their thoughts and speech.

Lahr does not speculate on whether Orton's wit would transcend this vindictive impetus but concentrates on the known, weaving the events of a shabby life with a most sen- sible appreciation of his work. It is by his tawdry death that many will remember Orton, hammered on the head by the desperate Kenneth Halliwell, who was jealous, not of other lovers, but of Orton's success.

It is upon this scene, that Lahr builds his life, a far more fitting tribute to the permanent childhood of Orton than his gimmicky funeral: a tape re- corder wailed Lennon's *A Day in the Life*, Harold Pinter and Donald Pleasance each read a poem and everyone remained seated as the coffin trundled out of sight on a conveyor belt.

Nicholas Wapshott

## Paperbacks of the month



Romance comes down out of hilly woodlands, illustration for *A Dreamer's Tales* by Lord Dunsany, from Sidney Sime (Thames Hudson, £3.95), by Simon Heneage and Henry Ford.

## Down the proper path

The English Gardener, by William Cobbett. With an introduction by Anthony Huxley (Oxford, £1.95)

Perhaps you rejoice in the pos- session of an old walled garden. If not, and you have the means to start from scratch, here first are Cobbett's minutest, most practical instructions for mak- ing one that shall be as snug and fertile as the island valley of Avalon. It is not, mark you, for flowers, in 1829, when this book was originally published, they were serious men. So Cobbett's recommended walled patch of just under three-quarters of an acre is for vegetables and fruit. Begin by trenching the land to a depth of three feet, with a spade, digging to the bottom. To us this kind of thing seems as feasible as laying out the Garden of Eden singlehanded, yet even in this century Miss Jekyll could calmly recommend digging a pit four feet deep, four feet square, in light soils to suit the Giant Lily.

Though we flinch at the con- cept as a whole, Cobbett has still much to teach us. Counsels of perfection need not be alto- gether lost. Though we lack the

gardeners without number, and the weeding women to clean the walks, Cobbett sets us on the proper path. We have seen the light: here and there, bit by bit, we mend our ways. And there are useful, or at any rate promising, tips. He has, for instance, a simple method of testing the viability of seed upon which he swears is infallible. To one dithering over imma- ture packets of old seed of treasures not again procurable this offers hope. And if I were a man to grow potatoes, doubt- less I should be pleased to learn that, in order to keep them through the winter indoors, all that is needed is "the degree of warmth just necessary to keep a baby from perishing from cold."

Only when the book is two- thirds done does Cobbett get down to what he should regard as gardening proper, the use of shrubs and other orna- mental plants. He is writing, he says, for "persons who have the means of forming pretty gardens, and who have a taste for making use of these means; for those for which, I am sorry to say, has been declining in England for a great many years." His list of plants is of interest, as showing something of what was available before the great age of importations from China, but he is evidently not what is now called a plants- man, and he says straight out that his book is not meant for lovers of "curious" plants. He does indeed cite the *Hortus kewensis* for the best varieties of such things as melons and

strawberries, but that is only because Mr Aiton is the King's gardener and "surely that which contents his Majesty, may very well content any of us."

Among the unintended pleasures is the assertion that "it is the moral effects naturally attending a green- house, that I set the most value upon." How much better, during a long and dreary winter, he explains, "for daughters, or even sons, to assist, or attend, their mother in a green-house, than to be seized with her at cards, or in the blubberings over a stupid novel, or at any other amusement that can possibly be conceived." Cobbett must surely have been "chinking out of what happened at Mansfield Park!"

Jan Stephens

## Grand old men

Fit to Lead? by Hugh L'Etang (Heinemann Books, £4.50).

President. Tito's long-drawn-out final illness is the most recent reminder that political leaders may retain office—and power—long after their health has collapsed. The progressive decline in physical and mental capabilities that accompanies aging is always more obvious to others than to the victim, and more and more organiza- tions are now setting a fixed retiring age. Indeed politics is one of the last occupations which has no age limit, leaving it to the discretion of the electo- rate and of political advisers to ease grand old men from office before their decline becomes too embarrassingly obvious.

Eleven years ago Dr Hugh L'Etang first drew attention to the fallibility of that system in *The Pathology of Leadership*, which showed how statesmen such as Churchill and Roose- velt had been kept in power for far too long by a compla- cent silence among their family, friends, and advisers. The lessons have not been learnt, however, so Dr L'Etang is amply justified in returning to the same theme in the light of new evidence and new case histories. The instability, ec- centricity, pathological malice, and intellectual deterioration that he documents among poli- ticians make frightening reading at a time when technologi- cal advances in communi- cations and in weapon systems have speeded the evolution of international crises to a pat- tern of hours rather than days or weeks. Tests of mental and physical health may well be unacceptable to our leaders; but as a start we could ask that they accept the need for a mandatory age for retirement.

Tony Smith



Hipparchos was a political act by democrats removing a tyrant—the first known instance of the distortion of history for political ends—the record set right in the first place by Thucydides. As a leading light in the P.E.N. Club in Cape Town, she fights unceasingly against censorship, and tells a very funny story concerning one of her own books, reissued with a rather outspoken blurb and there- fore instantly banned—whereon she informed the authorities rather sharply that the book had been on sale for the past 20 years, and it was silently un- banned.

Why does she use a pen name? When she started to write, she had to keep it fairly secret—Matron, that presiding deity, being almost stronger than Athene and definitely more vengeful, might not have approved. "So I chose the name from Frois- sart, never thought of the cur!"

It takes her at least two years to write a book, and one cannot help hoping for more on Simonides—an example of how to live under a tyranny, and yet remain true to one's own vision, and tell the truth as it can be seen. As she says, "No good cause needs lies."

Philippa Toomey

## The woman question

Diana of the Crossways, by George Meredith (Virago, £2.50) Ann Veronica, by H. G. Wells (Virago, £2.50)

In 1885 George Meredith wrote *Diana of the Crossways*, a novel that finally brought him the literary success that had until then eluded him; 25 years later, H. G. Wells published *Ann Veronica* to the same public reception: shock, much dis- cussion, many sales. The topic both men had chosen was the theme of a young girl try- ing to free herself from the dominating restrictions of family and society to make an independent life for herself. The authors also share an attitude towards their women heroes. For there is never any doubt that in each case it is the woman who is in the right, struggling against absurd pre- scriptions, and the men are marginal, often comic. The "good" ones are the cardboard silent and trusted heroes of romantic fiction. In fact, H. G. Wells' outright championship of his wayward heroine also brought him considerable dis- approval. Macmillan refused to publish the novel, and the novel was banned by libraries.

H. G. Wells, always an au- tobiographical writer, relied on his own life for inspiration. Meredith took a famous recent scandal. The model for Diana was a famous London hostess, by then dead, whose husband had brought a divorce action against her, citing Lord Mel- bourne. The book opens on a beautiful young orphan girl at an Irish Ball; all eyes are on her; she is bound for a brilliant marriage. This apparently un- alterable future is ruined when her great-uncle, a husband, Sir Lukin Dunsany, makes a pass at her in the woods. She hastens away to marry the tenant of her father's house, Crossways, a man referred to throughout as "a gentlemanly official."

Diana is not just beautiful; she is fiery, dignified and wilful. What she wants is "external life, action, fields for energies to vary the struggle." Society's attitude is given to Sir Lukin to express: "A woman, Sir Lukin held, was by nature a mute in politics. Of the things that called a radical woman, he could not believe that she was less than mon- strous: with a nose," he said, "and doubts, and a death- hatcher jaws, slatterly in the gown, slithered, awful."

By the time H. G. Wells was writing society's implacable code had yielded somewhat to a milder and more domestic sense of disapproval. It shapes the book, makes the story lighter, one of winning the vote rather than surviving disaster. Ann Veronica is also beautiful; indeed her beauty is a much repeated theme. She too is re- solute and courageous, daring to defy a crochety father by leaving home to further her studies in science in science, and later to leave home again, this time to live with a married man.

Ann Veronica becomes a suf- frageist almost by accident, drawn into it by a coy friend called Miss Miniver; the novel's token ridiculous feminist, who is given to statements like: "Bodies! Bodies! Horrible things! We are souls", and at one point suggests that science will in time teach women to do without men. Yet even Wells' men are perfectly ready to see themselves as coarse brutes. Both Ann Veronica and Diana triumph. Perhaps they had to, to justify the scandal, to prove the rightness of what they were doing. Yet theirs are Pyrrhic victories; for in the end both are respectably married, with more than a hint that they are happy in submission.

Caroline Moorehead

## A sense of period

One Oxford Dictionary defini- tion of Romance is "a tale remote from everyday life"— which is perhaps why the sub- ject is so popular as a theme; and why so many novelists in the field write historical, or period, stories.

Miranda's Seymour's *The Goddess* (Futura, £1.35), a re- telling of the fateful love of Helen and Paris—could hardly be further removed from today's realities; and it's certainly very romantic. Not perhaps quite in the Mary Renault class (though Mary Renault had some nice things to say about it when it appeared in hardback) it is simply, but evocatively, written and makes the tale so often told before fresh and accessible. It would make a splendid travel- ling companion for a holiday in Greece.

I've read all Anna Gilbert's cool, elegant, Victorian mys- teries (she's written six so far). I think Remembering Louise

(Coronet, 85p) (her fourth) is one of her best.

The delicacy and precision of her writing for some time dis- guises the fact that the mystery is central to the plot. Character and place, and small, ap- parently trivial, incidents dominate the early pages and absorb the attention. Then, gradually, the tension begins to build.

Hester, the narrator, daughter of a jeweller and watchmaker in the small north-country town of Wickborough, is overjoyed when her pretty sister who has lived for many years in Scotland comes home unexpectedly. But from the moment she arrives Louise—sweet, docile and house- wifely though she is—is a dis- rupting presence. Without lift- ing a finger, or her eyes, she manages (apparently uncon- sciously) to destroy not only Hester's present contentment but her lovingly-planned future too. But still Hester loves her. And as her world crumbles she worries about the stranger in black whose life she might have saved, but didn't.

A complex, subtle, story; de- ceptively gentle, ingeniously and beautifully contrived. It gave me immense pleasure.

To be born in the religion- and-superstition-ridden town of Aberdeen at the end of the 17th century was not the best start in life; to lose one's mother at birth, be deserted by one's father, and crippled into the bargain seems a recipe for disaster. But Margery Mont- gomery, wife of a born survivor, "if she lives at all," the mediciner says at her birth, "she will be a remarkable woman." And she was. In *The Heretics* (Corgi, £1.25) Agnes Short paints a portrait of the community in which Margery grows up, down to the minutest detail and with a vividness which makes the characters spring from the page.

Kil's Mill (Pan 95p) is the first volume in Jean Strubbe's family saga set on the western slopes of the Pennines. It will (she plans) span two centuries and chart the upward progress of a fell-top farm from 1760 onwards.

The story opens with Ned Howarth, a rough but well- established yeoman farmer, laboriously composing a touch- ingly naive proposal to Miss Dorcas Wilde, daughter of a Gloucestershire parson now reduced to the rôle of com- panion to her tyrannical Aunt Tabitha. Ned might be "un- suitable" as a husband but at least he's an escape from that awful fate. And, like Margery Montgomery, Dorcas is a born survivor. She even survives the horrendously barbaric country wedding to which Ned subjects her, and becomes the civilizing influence on his rustic house- hold.

It's compelling story, con- vincingly told and with a firm sense of period. I look forward to its sequel.

Elizabeth Grey

## Gay nights in Gotham

Dancer from the Dance, by Andrew Holleran (Corgi, £1.25)

It is impossible to live only for love and beauty. The inhabit- ants of Andrew Holleran's fas- cinating first novel think so. Nothing else. Beautiful, chic, they dance the night away, high on Angel Dust, at the club called the Twelfth Floor in an old factory building in down town New York. It is a classless society in which money counts not, where the messenger boy dances with the surgeon from Bellevue, the advertising executive with the bank clerk. All are men, and all are homo- sexual.

This is the story, told in retrospect by an observer, of the beautiful, tall, blond, kind and adored, and his patron Sutherland, an older man, and a "screaming queen", dressed to kill, leader of fashion, philosopher and wit, frequent- ly of the men's room at railway stations and the smartest parties.

There are no women, no children, families that are visited only at Christmas, and who sometimes claim the body after death. Malone discovers his homosexuality with Frankie Oliveri, a working man who leaves wife and children to live with him, and who threatens to kill him when the love affair wanes. All these loves, the "dark angels", Puerto Rican messenger boys, Italian or Mexican Americans, are doomed, as Sutherland knows, and Malone finds out. Years pass in dancing, party going, summers in Park Island, sex in down town parks, col- lecting the clothes, the shoes, VD, despair, accidie and death from overdoses.

Those who are offended by sexuality of any kind will detect this novel. It is not a tract for or against the gay world, but a brilliant portrait of a society set in a wonderful and beautiful city.

Philippa Toomey

A classic adventure in eavesdropping across time—Michael Ratcliffe in *The Times*

EMMANUEL LE ROY LADURIE

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The world-famous portrait of life in a medieval village

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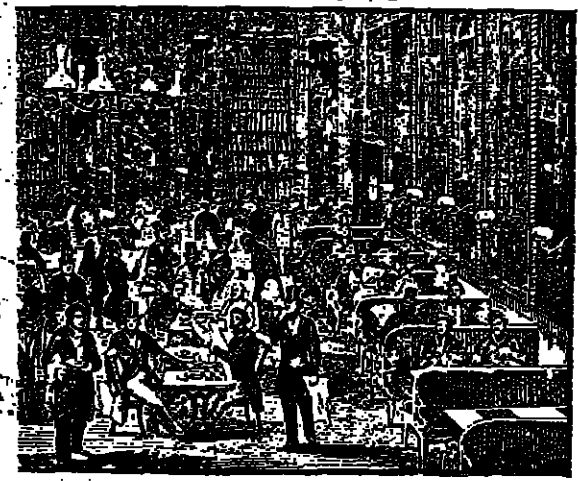


## Chess

## Something special in the Strand

What is so special, you might ask, about Simpson's? Let the chess events, anecdotes and reminiscences of Simpson's must ever form a most interesting chapter in the English or national history of chess for the nineteenth century, and is intimately linked with that of the whole chess world. As the arena of the finest and most brilliant chess play Simpson's still stands, and has ever done so, pre-eminently first, from the time of A. McDonnell of Belfast, and L. De la Bourdonnais of Paris, and their first appearance there in 1828 and 1829 to the present day, and it is still there (and there alone) that can still be witnessed in this country a competition or a tournament open to all comers conceived in the spirit of pure chessmanship only, and it is to Simpson's that lovers of the game must still resort if they wish to see really fine contests between the recognized greatest players.

Every great player of the time went there, and again I quote from Bird: "Simpson's Divan was naturally the first resort of the incomparable Paul Morphy, and he greatly preferred it to any other chess room he ever saw, he even went so far as to say it was 'very nice', which was a great deal from him, the most undemonstrative young man we ever met."



100 years ago... chess memories.

with. Certainly nothing else in London, from St Paul's, Westminster Abbey and the Tower, to our picture galleries and Crystal Palace, not even the Duke of Wellington's Questrian Statue, elicited such praise from him as 'very nice'.

It was at Simpson's that Anderssen and Kieseritzky played their immortal game in 1851. That it was at Simpson's Divan it was played and not at the 1851 London tournament is apparent from its inclusion in Elijah Williams's *Horae Divanicae* where it appears as the last and 150th game "by leading masters played at the Grand Divan". Williams's book incidentally was published at the Grand Divan, 101 Strand.

It was at the Divan that Louis Paulsen gave a blindfold simultaneous display against 12 players. If this is not particularly wonderful nowadays, it should be remembered that Morphy himself caused an enormous sensation when he gave a simultaneous blindfold display against eight players at Birmingham in 1858.

All this, and much more with such players as Blackburne, Steinitz and Zukertort, was to be seen at Simpson's right up to the end of the century. But after it was demolished in 1900 and rebuilt in 1904 the chess-players disappeared.

Last Saturday was another historic occasion in that we all gathered together at Simpson's to watch the finals of the National Chess Club championship between teams of six players from the King's Head Club and the Islington Club. Nobody of the stature of Steinitz or Zukertort or Morphy was playing; but the teams were composed of young talented players and who knows what the future will bring? Perhaps in 50 years people will point to the place where Jonathan Speelman beat Craig Pritchett or where that great master of the improbable, E. Rayner, contrived to lose a dead-win game to a corner where old Golombek sat, steadily and sleepily compiling a cross-reference index to the Penguin version of the Encyclopedia.

For the record, the match was won by the King's Head by 31-21. The King's Head had White on the odd-numbered boards and a fast time-limit was used of 30 moves in 21 hours.

Individual results with King's Head names first, were: Speelman 1, C. Pritchett 0; Cooper 1, A. Perkins 1; A. Whitely 1, P. Large 1; J. Pigou 1, J. Kinley 1; E. Rayner 0, J. Kosen 1 and G. Hildyard 1, R. Bailey 0.

I had hoped and intended to give the best game of the match here; but since the best game was that played on top board and there the two players were in such time trouble that I was unable to get a complete or accurate score from them, I fall back to my second line of defence and give the Immortal Game only 129 years after it was played.

There has always been some confusion about this wonderful game, not only because of the London 1851 tournament, I have already mentioned, but because there are three different versions, all of which, however, eventually transpire into the same game. I give the version that is now generally regarded as the correct one.

White: Anderssen. Black: Kieseritzky. King's Bishop's Gambit.

1 P-K4 P-K4 2 N-K3 3 N-K3 4 P-Q4 5 P-Q4 6 P-Q4 7 P-Q4 8 P-Q4 9 P-Q4 10 P-Q4 11 P-Q4 12 P-Q4 13 P-Q4 14 P-Q4 15 P-Q4 16 P-Q4 17 P-Q4 18 P-Q4 19 P-Q4 20 P-Q4 21 P-Q4 22 P-Q4 23 P-Q4 24 P-Q4 25 P-Q4 26 P-Q4 27 P-Q4 28 P-Q4 29 P-Q4 30 P-Q4 31 P-Q4 32 P-Q4 33 P-Q4 34 P-Q4 35 P-Q4 36 P-Q4 37 P-Q4 38 P-Q4 39 P-Q4 40 P-Q4 41 P-Q4 42 P-Q4 43 P-Q4 44 P-Q4 45 P-Q4 46 P-Q4 47 P-Q4 48 P-Q4 49 P-Q4 50 P-Q4 51 P-Q4 52 P-Q4 53 P-Q4 54 P-Q4 55 P-Q4 56 P-Q4 57 P-Q4 58 P-Q4 59 P-Q4 60 P-Q4 61 P-Q4 62 P-Q4 63 P-Q4 64 P-Q4 65 P-Q4 66 P-Q4 67 P-Q4 68 P-Q4 69 P-Q4 70 P-Q4 71 P-Q4 72 P-Q4 73 P-Q4 74 P-Q4 75 P-Q4 76 P-Q4 77 P-Q4 78 P-Q4 79 P-Q4 80 P-Q4 81 P-Q4 82 P-Q4 83 P-Q4 84 P-Q4 85 P-Q4 86 P-Q4 87 P-Q4 88 P-Q4 89 P-Q4 90 P-Q4 91 P-Q4 92 P-Q4 93 P-Q4 94 P-Q4 95 P-Q4 96 P-Q4 97 P-Q4 98 P-Q4 99 P-Q4 100 P-Q4 101 P-Q4 102 P-Q4 103 P-Q4 104 P-Q4 105 P-Q4 106 P-Q4 107 P-Q4 108 P-Q4 109 P-Q4 110 P-Q4 111 P-Q4 112 P-Q4 113 P-Q4 114 P-Q4 115 P-Q4 116 P-Q4 117 P-Q4 118 P-Q4 119 P-Q4 120 P-Q4 121 P-Q4 122 P-Q4 123 P-Q4 124 P-Q4 125 P-Q4 126 P-Q4 127 P-Q4 128 P-Q4 129 P-Q4 130 P-Q4 131 P-Q4 132 P-Q4 133 P-Q4 134 P-Q4 135 P-Q4 136 P-Q4 137 P-Q4 138 P-Q4 139 P-Q4 140 P-Q4 141 P-Q4 142 P-Q4 143 P-Q4 144 P-Q4 145 P-Q4 146 P-Q4 147 P-Q4 148 P-Q4 149 P-Q4 150 P-Q4 151 P-Q4 152 P-Q4 153 P-Q4 154 P-Q4 155 P-Q4 156 P-Q4 157 P-Q4 158 P-Q4 159 P-Q4 160 P-Q4 161 P-Q4 162 P-Q4 163 P-Q4 164 P-Q4 165 P-Q4 166 P-Q4 167 P-Q4 168 P-Q4 169 P-Q4 170 P-Q4 171 P-Q4 172 P-Q4 173 P-Q4 174 P-Q4 175 P-Q4 176 P-Q4 177 P-Q4 178 P-Q4 179 P-Q4 180 P-Q4 181 P-Q4 182 P-Q4 183 P-Q4 184 P-Q4 185 P-Q4 186 P-Q4 187 P-Q4 188 P-Q4 189 P-Q4 190 P-Q4 191 P-Q4 192 P-Q4 193 P-Q4 194 P-Q4 195 P-Q4 196 P-Q4 197 P-Q4 198 P-Q4 199 P-Q4 200 P-Q4 201 P-Q4 202 P-Q4 203 P-Q4 204 P-Q4 205 P-Q4 206 P-Q4 207 P-Q4 208 P-Q4 209 P-Q4 210 P-Q4 211 P-Q4 212 P-Q4 213 P-Q4 214 P-Q4 215 P-Q4 216 P-Q4 217 P-Q4 218 P-Q4 219 P-Q4 220 P-Q4 221 P-Q4 222 P-Q4 223 P-Q4 224 P-Q4 225 P-Q4 226 P-Q4 227 P-Q4 228 P-Q4 229 P-Q4 230 P-Q4 231 P-Q4 232 P-Q4 233 P-Q4 234 P-Q4 235 P-Q4 236 P-Q4 237 P-Q4 238 P-Q4 239 P-Q4 240 P-Q4 241 P-Q4 242 P-Q4 243 P-Q4 244 P-Q4 245 P-Q4 246 P-Q4 247 P-Q4 248 P-Q4 249 P-Q4 250 P-Q4 251 P-Q4 252 P-Q4 253 P-Q4 254 P-Q4 255 P-Q4 256 P-Q4 257 P-Q4 258 P-Q4 259 P-Q4 260 P-Q4 261 P-Q4 262 P-Q4 263 P-Q4 264 P-Q4 265 P-Q4 266 P-Q4 267 P-Q4 268 P-Q4 269 P-Q4 270 P-Q4 271 P-Q4 272 P-Q4 273 P-Q4 274 P-Q4 275 P-Q4 276 P-Q4 277 P-Q4 278 P-Q4 279 P-Q4 280 P-Q4 281 P-Q4 282 P-Q4 283 P-Q4 284 P-Q4 285 P-Q4 286 P-Q4 287 P-Q4 288 P-Q4 289 P-Q4 290 P-Q4 291 P-Q4 292 P-Q4 293 P-Q4 294 P-Q4 295 P-Q4 296 P-Q4 297 P-Q4 298 P-Q4 299 P-Q4 300 P-Q4 301 P-Q4 302 P-Q4 303 P-Q4 304 P-Q4 305 P-Q4 306 P-Q4 307 P-Q4 308 P-Q4 309 P-Q4 310 P-Q4 311 P-Q4 312 P-Q4 313 P-Q4 314 P-Q4 315 P-Q4 316 P-Q4 317 P-Q4 318 P-Q4 319 P-Q4 320 P-Q4 321 P-Q4 322 P-Q4 323 P-Q4 324 P-Q4 325 P-Q4 326 P-Q4 327 P-Q4 328 P-Q4 329 P-Q4 330 P-Q4 331 P-Q4 332 P-Q4 333 P-Q4 334 P-Q4 335 P-Q4 336 P-Q4 337 P-Q4 338 P-Q4 339 P-Q4 340 P-Q4 341 P-Q4 342 P-Q4 343 P-Q4 344 P-Q4 345 P-Q4 346 P-Q4 347 P-Q4 348 P-Q4 349 P-Q4 350 P-Q4 351 P-Q4 352 P-Q4 353 P-Q4 354 P-Q4 355 P-Q4 356 P-Q4 357 P-Q4 358 P-Q4 359 P-Q4 360 P-Q4 361 P-Q4 362 P-Q4 363 P-Q4 364 P-Q4 365 P-Q4 366 P-Q4 367 P-Q4 368 P-Q4 369 P-Q4 370 P-Q4 371 P-Q4 372 P-Q4 373 P-Q4 374 P-Q4 375 P-Q4 376 P-Q4 377 P-Q4 378 P-Q4 379 P-Q4 380 P-Q4 381 P-Q4 382 P-Q4 383 P-Q4 384 P-Q4 385 P-Q4 386 P-Q4 387 P-Q4 388 P-Q4 389 P-Q4 390 P-Q4 391 P-Q4 392 P-Q4 393 P-Q4 394 P-Q4 395 P-Q4 396 P-Q4 397 P-Q4 398 P-Q4 399 P-Q4 400 P-Q4 401 P-Q4 402 P-Q4 403 P-Q4 404 P-Q4 405 P-Q4 406 P-Q4 407 P-Q4 408 P-Q4 409 P-Q4 410 P-Q4 411 P-Q4 412 P-Q4 413 P-Q4 414 P-Q4 415 P-Q4 416 P-Q4 417 P-Q4 418 P-Q4 419 P-Q4 420 P-Q4 421 P-Q4 422 P-Q4 423 P-Q4 424 P-Q4 425 P-Q4 426 P-Q4 427 P-Q4 428 P-Q4 429 P-Q4 430 P-Q4 431 P-Q4 432 P-Q4 433 P-Q4 434 P-Q4 435 P-Q4 436 P-Q4 437 P-Q4 438 P-Q4 439 P-Q4 440 P-Q4 441 P-Q4 442 P-Q4 443 P-Q4 444 P-Q4 445 P-Q4 446 P-Q4 447 P-Q4 448 P-Q4 449 P-Q4 450 P-Q4 451 P-Q4 452 P-Q4 453 P-Q4 454 P-Q4 455 P-Q4 456 P-Q4 457 P-Q4 458 P-Q4 459 P-Q4 460 P-Q4 461 P-Q4 462 P-Q4 463 P-Q4 464 P-Q4 465 P-Q4 466 P-Q4 467 P-Q4 468 P-Q4 469 P-Q4 470 P-Q4 471 P-Q4 472 P-Q4 473 P-Q4 474 P-Q4 475 P-Q4 476 P-Q4 477 P-Q4 478 P-Q4 479 P-Q4 480 P-Q4 481 P-Q4 482 P-Q4 483 P-Q4 484 P-Q4 485 P-Q4 486 P-Q4 487 P-Q4 488 P-Q4 489 P-Q4 490 P-Q4 491 P-Q4 492 P-Q4 493 P-Q4 494 P-Q4 495 P-Q4 496 P-Q4 497 P-Q4 498 P-Q4 499 P-Q4 500 P-Q4 501 P-Q4 502 P-Q4 503 P-Q4 504 P-Q4 505 P-Q4 506 P-Q4 507 P-Q4 508 P-Q4 509 P-Q4 510 P-Q4 511 P-Q4 512 P-Q4 513 P-Q4 514 P-Q4 515 P-Q4 516 P-Q4 517 P-Q4 518 P-Q4 519 P-Q4 520 P-Q4 521 P-Q4 522 P-Q4 523 P-Q4 524 P-Q4 525 P-Q4 526 P-Q4 527 P-Q4 528 P-Q4 529 P-Q4 530 P-Q4 531 P-Q4 532 P-Q4 533 P-Q4 534 P-Q4 535 P-Q4 536 P-Q4 537 P-Q4 538 P-Q4 539 P-Q4 540 P-Q4 541 P-Q4 542 P-Q4 543 P-Q4 544 P-Q4 545 P-Q4 546 P-Q4 547 P-Q4 548 P-Q4 549 P-Q4 550 P-Q4 551 P-Q4 552 P-Q4 553 P-Q4 554 P-Q4 555 P-Q4 556 P-Q4 557 P-Q4 558 P-Q4 559 P-Q4 560 P-Q4 561 P-Q4 562 P-Q4 563 P-Q4 564 P-Q4 565 P-Q4 566 P-Q4 567 P-Q4 568 P-Q4 569 P-Q4 570 P-Q4 571 P-Q4 572 P-Q4 573 P-Q4 574 P-Q4 575 P-Q4 576 P-Q4 577 P-Q4 578 P-Q4 579 P-Q4 580 P-Q4 581 P-Q4 582 P-Q4 583 P-Q4 584 P-Q4 585 P-Q4 586 P-Q4 587 P-Q4 588 P-Q4 589 P-Q4 590 P-Q4 591 P-Q4 592 P-Q4 593 P-Q4 594 P-Q4 595 P-Q4 596 P-Q4 597 P-Q4 598 P-Q4 599 P-Q4 600 P-Q4 601 P-Q4 602 P-Q4 603 P-Q4 604 P-Q4 605 P-Q4 606 P-Q4 607 P-Q4 608 P-Q4 609 P-Q4 610 P-Q4 611 P-Q4 612 P-Q4 613 P-Q4 614 P-Q4 615 P-Q4 616 P-Q4 617 P-Q4 618 P-Q4 619 P-Q4 620 P-Q4 621 P-Q4 622 P-Q4 623 P-Q4 624 P-Q4 625 P-Q4 626 P-Q4 627 P-Q4 628 P-Q4 629 P-Q4 630 P-Q4 631 P-Q4 632 P-Q4 633 P-Q4 634 P-Q4 635 P-Q4 636 P-Q4 637 P-Q4 638 P-Q4 639 P-Q4 640 P-Q4 641 P-Q4 642 P-Q4 643 P-Q4 644 P-Q4 645 P-Q4 646 P-Q4 647 P-Q4 648 P-Q4 649 P-Q4 650 P-Q4 651 P-Q4 652 P-Q4 653 P-Q4 654 P-Q4 655 P-Q4 656 P-Q4 657 P-Q4 658 P-Q4 659 P-Q4 660 P-Q4 661 P-Q4 662 P-Q4 663 P-Q4 664 P-Q4 665 P-Q4 666 P-Q4 667 P-Q4 668 P-Q4 669 P-Q4 670 P-Q4 671 P-Q4 672 P-Q4 673 P-Q4 674 P-Q4 675 P-Q4 676 P-Q4 677 P-Q4 678 P-Q4 679 P-Q4 680 P-Q4 681 P-Q4 682 P-Q4 683 P-Q4 684 P-Q4 685 P-Q4 686 P-Q4 687 P-Q4 688 P-Q4 689 P-Q4 690 P-Q4 691 P-Q4 692 P-Q4 693 P-Q4 694 P-Q4 695 P-Q4 696 P-Q4 697 P-Q4 698 P-Q4 699 P-Q4 700 P-Q4 701 P-Q4 702 P-Q4 703 P-Q4 704 P-Q4 705 P-Q4 706 P-Q4 707 P-Q4 708 P-Q4 709 P-Q4 710 P-Q4 711 P-Q4 712 P-Q4 713 P-Q4 714 P-Q4 715 P-Q4 716 P-Q4 717 P-Q4 718 P-Q4 719 P-Q4 720 P-Q4 721 P-Q4 722 P-Q4 723 P-Q4 724 P-Q4 725 P-Q4 726 P-Q4 727 P-Q4 728 P-Q4 729 P-Q4 730 P-Q4 731 P-Q4 732 P-Q4 733 P-Q4 734 P-Q4 735 P-Q4 736 P-Q4 737 P-Q4 738 P-Q4 739 P-Q4 740 P-Q4 741 P-Q4 742 P-Q4 743 P-Q4 744 P-Q4 745 P-Q4 746 P-Q4 747 P-Q4 748 P-Q4 749 P-Q4 750 P-Q4 751 P-Q4 752 P-Q4 753 P-Q4 754 P-Q4 755 P-Q4 756 P-Q4 757 P-Q4 758 P-Q4 759 P-Q4 760 P-Q4 761 P-Q4 762 P-Q4 763 P-Q4 764 P-Q4 765 P-Q4 766 P-Q4 767 P-Q4 768 P-Q4 769 P-Q4 770 P-Q4 771 P-Q4 772 P-Q4 773 P-Q4 774 P-Q4 775 P-Q4 776 P-Q4 777 P-Q4 778 P-Q4 779 P-Q4 780 P-Q4 781 P-Q4 782 P-Q4 783 P-Q4 784 P-Q4 785 P-Q4 786 P-Q4 787 P-Q4 788 P-Q4 789 P-Q4 790 P-Q4 791 P-Q4 792 P-Q4 793 P-Q4 794 P-Q4 795 P-Q4 796 P-Q4 797 P-Q4 798 P-Q4 799 P-Q4 800 P-Q4 801 P-Q4 802 P-Q4 803 P-Q4 804 P-Q4 805 P-Q4 806 P-Q4 807 P-Q4 808 P-Q4 809 P-Q4 810 P-Q4 811 P-Q4 812 P-Q4 813 P-Q4 814 P-Q4 815 P-Q4 816 P-Q4 817 P-Q4 818 P-Q4 819 P-Q4 820 P-Q4 821 P-Q4 822 P-Q4 823 P-Q4 824 P-Q4 825 P-Q4 826 P-Q4 827 P-Q4 828 P-Q4 829 P-Q4 830 P-Q4 831 P-Q4 832 P-Q4 833 P-Q4 834 P-Q4 835 P-Q4 836 P-Q4 837 P-Q4 838 P-Q4 839 P-Q4 840 P-Q4 841 P-Q4 842 P-Q4 843 P-Q4 844 P-Q4 845 P-Q4 846 P-Q4 847 P-Q4 848 P-Q4 849 P-Q4 850 P-Q4 851 P-Q4 852 P-Q4 853 P-Q4 854 P-Q4 855 P-Q4 856 P-Q4 857 P-Q4 858 P-Q4 859 P-Q4 860 P-Q4 861 P-Q4 862 P-Q4 863 P-Q4 864 P-Q4 865 P-Q4 866 P-Q4 867 P-Q4 868 P-Q4 869 P-Q4 870 P-Q4 871 P-Q4 872 P-Q4 873 P-Q4 874 P-Q4 875 P-Q4 876 P-Q4 877 P-Q4 878 P-Q4 879 P-Q4 880 P-Q4 881 P-Q4 882 P-Q4 883 P-Q4 884 P-Q4 885 P-Q4 886 P-Q4 887 P-Q4 888 P-Q4 889 P-Q4 890 P-Q4 891 P-Q4 892 P-Q4 893 P-Q4 894 P-Q4 895 P-Q4 896 P-Q4 897 P-Q4 898 P-Q4 899 P-Q4 900 P-Q4 901 P-Q4 902 P-Q4 903 P-Q4 904 P-Q4 905 P-Q4 906 P-Q4 907 P-Q4 908 P-Q4 909 P-Q4 910 P-Q4 911 P-Q4 912 P-Q4 913 P-Q4 914 P-Q4 915 P-Q4 916 P-Q4 917 P-Q4 918 P-Q4 919 P-Q4 920 P-Q4 921 P-Q4 922 P-Q4 923 P-Q4 924 P-Q4 925 P-Q4 926 P-Q4 927 P-Q4 928 P-Q4 929 P-Q4 930 P-Q4 931 P-Q4 932 P-Q4 933 P-Q4 934 P-Q4 935 P-Q4 936 P-Q4 937 P-Q4 938 P-Q4 939 P-Q4 940 P-Q4 941 P-Q4 942 P-Q4 943 P-Q4 944 P-Q4 945 P-Q4 946 P-Q4 947 P-Q4 948 P-Q4 949 P-Q4 950 P-Q4 951 P-Q4 952 P-Q4 953 P-Q4 954 P-Q4 955 P-Q4 956 P-Q4 957 P-Q4 958 P-Q4 959 P-Q4 960 P-Q4 961 P-Q4 962 P-Q4 963 P-Q4 964 P-Q4 965 P-Q4 966 P-Q4 967 P-Q4 968 P-Q4 969 P-Q4 970 P-Q4 971 P-Q4 972 P-Q4 973 P-Q4 974 P-Q4 975 P-Q4 976 P-Q4 977 P-Q4 978 P-Q4 979 P-Q4 980 P-Q4 981 P-Q4 982 P-Q4 983 P-Q4 984 P-Q4 985 P-Q4 986 P-Q4 987 P-Q4 988 P-Q4 989 P-Q4 990 P-Q4 991 P-Q4 992 P-Q4 993 P-Q4 994 P-Q4 995 P-Q4 996 P-Q4 997 P-Q4 998 P-Q4 999 P-Q4 1000 P-Q4 1001 P-Q4 1002 P-Q4 1003 P-Q4 1004 P-Q4 1005 P-Q4 1006 P-Q4 1007 P-Q4 1008 P-Q4 1009 P-Q4 1010 P-Q4 1011 P-Q4 1012 P-Q4 1013 P-Q4 1014 P-Q4 1015 P-Q4 1016 P-Q4 1017 P-Q4 1018 P-Q4 1019 P-Q4 1020 P-Q4 1021 P-Q4 1022 P-Q4 1023 P-Q4 1024 P-Q4 1025 P-Q4 1026 P-Q4 1027 P-Q4 1028 P-Q4 1029 P-Q4 1030 P-Q4 1031 P-Q4 1032 P-Q4 1033 P-Q4 1034 P-Q4 1035 P-Q4 1036 P-Q4 1037 P-Q4 1038 P-Q4 1039 P-Q4 1040 P-Q4 1041 P-Q4 1042 P-Q4 1043 P-Q4 1044 P-Q4 1045 P-Q4 1046 P-Q4 1047 P-Q4 1048 P-Q4 1049 P-Q4 1050 P-Q4 1051 P-Q4 1052 P-Q4 1053 P-Q4 1054 P-Q4 1055 P-Q4 1056 P-Q4 1057 P-Q4 1058 P-Q4 1059 P-Q4 1060 P-Q4 1061 P-Q4 1062 P-Q4 1063 P-Q4 1064 P-Q4 1065 P-Q4 1066 P-Q4 1067 P-Q4 1068 P-Q4 1069 P-Q4 1070 P-Q4 1071 P-Q4 1072 P-Q4 1073 P-Q4 1074 P-Q4 1075 P-Q4 1076 P-Q4 1077 P-Q4 1078 P-Q4 1079 P-Q4 1080 P-Q4 1081 P-Q4 1082 P-Q4 1083 P-Q4 1084 P-Q4 1085 P-Q4 1086 P-Q4 1087 P-Q4 1088 P-Q4 1089 P-Q4 1090 P-Q4 1091 P-Q4 1092 P-Q4 1093 P-Q4 1094 P-Q4 1095 P-Q4 1096 P-Q4 1097 P-Q4 1098 P-Q4 1099 P-Q4 1100 P-Q4 1101 P-Q4 1102 P-Q4 1103 P-Q4 1104 P-Q4 1105 P-Q4 1106 P-Q4 1107 P-Q4 1108 P-Q4 1109 P-Q4 1110 P-Q4 1111 P-Q4 1112 P-Q4 1113 P-Q4 1114 P-Q4 1115 P-Q4 1116 P-Q4 1117 P-Q4 1118 P-Q4 1119 P-Q4 1120 P-Q4 1121 P-Q4 1122 P-Q4 1123 P-Q4 1124 P-Q4 1125 P-Q4 1126 P-Q4 1127 P-Q4 1128 P-Q4 1129 P-Q4 1130 P-Q4 1131 P-Q4 1132 P-Q4 1133 P-Q4 1134 P-Q4 1135 P-Q4 1136 P-Q4 1137 P-Q4 1138 P-Q4 1139 P-Q4 1140 P-Q4 1141 P-Q4 1142 P-Q4 1143 P-Q4 1144 P-Q4 1145 P-Q4 1146 P-Q4 1147 P-Q4 1148 P-Q4 1149 P-Q4 1150 P-Q4 1151 P-Q4 1152 P-Q4 1153 P-Q4 1154 P-Q4 1155 P-Q4 1156 P-Q4 1157 P-Q4 1158 P-Q4 1159 P-Q4 1160 P-Q4 1161 P-Q4 1162 P-Q4 1163 P-Q4 1164 P-Q4 1165 P-Q4 1166 P-Q4 1167 P-Q4 1168 P-Q4 1169 P-Q4 1170 P-Q4 1171 P-Q4 1172 P-Q4 1173 P-Q4 1174 P-Q4 1175 P-Q4 1176 P-Q4 1177 P-Q4 1178 P-Q4 1179 P-Q4 1180 P-Q4 1181 P-Q4 1182 P-Q4 1183 P-Q4 1184 P-Q4 1185 P-Q4 1186 P-Q4 1187 P-Q4 1188 P-Q4 1189 P-Q4 1190 P-Q4 1191 P-Q4 1192 P-Q4 1193 P-Q4 1194 P-Q4 1195 P-Q4 1196 P-Q4 1197 P-Q4 1198 P-Q4 1199 P-Q4 1200 P-Q4 1201 P-Q4 1202 P-Q4 1203 P-Q4 1204 P-Q4 1205 P-Q4 1206 P-Q4 1207 P-Q4 1208 P-Q4 1209 P-Q4 1210 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Fred Emery

# No wonder Mr Jenkins waits in the wings

For getting everyone, and well nigh everything, into the act, there is no political act more compelling than the whiff of a party leadership up for grabs. It is what makes the American system so exhilarating, or unnerving, depending on your view. Their way of putting would-be candidates—helping make the party's final choice—to the voter every four years produces a political binge.

We may do things better in producing leaders of experience, at least of Parliamentary experience. But the instincts aroused are the same, however much our politicians nobly deplore the tendency of the press to deal in personalities at the expense of ideas and arguments. The three are of course quite inseparable. And the Americans would have been hard put to compete with the kind of instant precipitation provoked this past week by the rush for the Callaghan succession.

The Labour leader, of course, has given not the slightest sign of waving up. Suddenly beset by challenge both personal—as with Mr Wedgwood Benn—and political, he has been eagerly trying to re-focus attention on the Tories. He clasped the disclosure of Mrs Thatcher's special one-day Cabinet as a godsend, and now promises to do his bit to make such a hoo-ha about his July 15 meeting that it might come to look like the political equivalent of the TUC's May 14. But no one seems to be listening.

At least, not on the Labour side they were not. There, the fact that Mr Callaghan has not given a clear indication whether he is staying or going at the November leadership election has enlivened the chase. Their special one-day conference was clearly not enough. It turned out to be a push, not just for the so-called "rolling" manifesto, but for a crescendo of argument and manoeuvring.

It was not simply that most of the pretenders had their say; it was those deep old issues that have been sending Labour activists for decades that caused a rush of blood to head.

These did not include, note well, the triad of "party democracy" reforms for which Mr Benn crusades—although he sought now to make the most telling link between them. Making a future Labour Cabinet directly accountable to party conference in the manner he wishes could indeed reverse the policy imposition, he presently deplores.

No, it was almost regardless of Mr Benn, that party barons this week pursued a hectic reversal of what Labour governments had stood for. The opening shots over incomes policy would have been enough for most men. The failure of the TUC to come to terms in Mr Callaghan's cross, but he definitely insisted to last Saturday's conference that it was a cross that he would bear until the unions agreed, for there was no electoral redemption without it.

Pay policy could hardly be more topical or pressing, as Mr John Biffen, Mrs Thatcher's close Cabinet ally, reminded Tories yesterday in calling for calm over government and the public sector. But Labour's pretensions seek identity with headier stuff. And so on Thursday Mr John Silkin came out for leaving the EEC, no ifs or buts, leaving Mr Benn and Mr Shore pussyfooting by comparison.

Mr Callaghan used to muse that it was one of his real achievements in office to have ended Labour's great EEC quarrel. But it looks very different now with the Little-Englanders incited by the hope of making the EEC a party issue at the next election for the first time. What will Labour's pro-EEC faction say and do?

Mr William Rodgers, for one, has already rebuked Mr Benn for belittling the Labour MPs and bitterly challenged him to resign from Labour's NEC constituency section if he so believes in grass-roots representation. But were the Silkin EEC exit to become conference policy that more than anything else must provoke Labour moderates like Dr David Owen and Mrs Shirley Williams to reconsider a socialist alternative to the Labour Party. No wonder Mr Roy Jenkins is hovering.

And so to the third gut issue—not just the banning of Cruise missiles and rejection of a Polaris replace-

ment, as last weeks conference agreed, but now a proposed conference resolution for unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Mr Moss Evans is urging it, and one wonders where Mr Ernest Bevin, Mr Evan's great predecessor at Transport House, would have consigned it. Mr Evans is a bit of a puzzle. He was the supposed moving force behind the calling of the Labour special conference; yet when he was called could make a speech that left hardly a ripple among delegates. Many in the party write him off, perhaps unfairly, as the tool of the hard men in the Transport Workers' Union. Perhaps they believe that unilateralism, which many constituency delegates mumbled, will make people sit up and take notice.

This headlong plunge has not passed entirely without challenge. In addition to speeches by Mr Rodgers and Dr Owen, there was a notable whole-page article in *The Guardian* on the growth-based incomes policy by Mr Roy Hattersley, one of the next generation of challengers. Mr Denis Healey, a restless pretender, with perhaps most to lose, may have more to say when interviewed in *Panorama* next Monday.

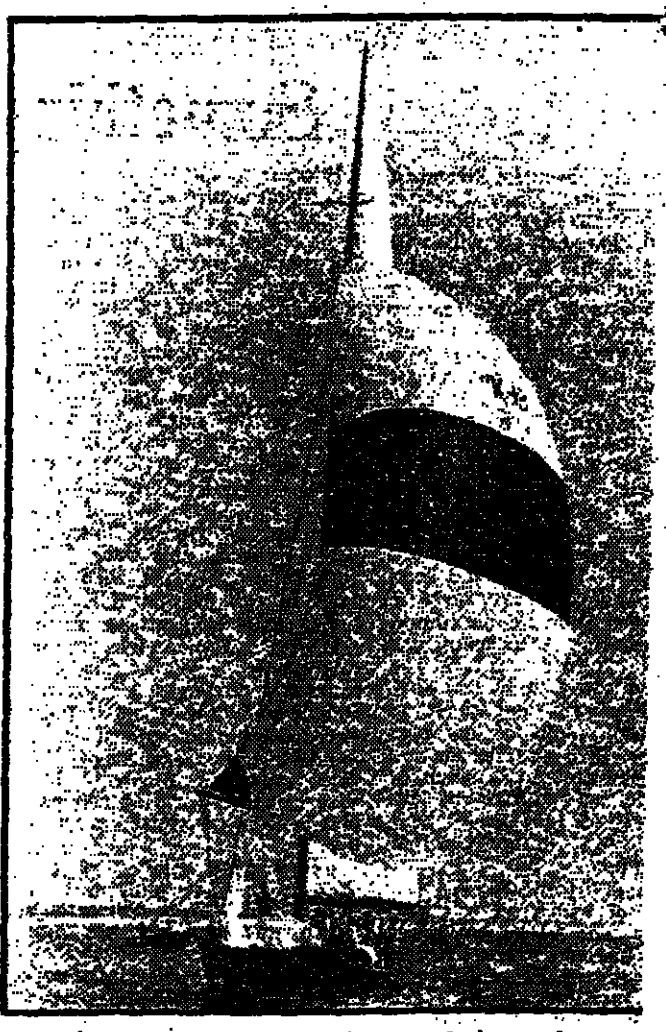
But there have been two notable absentees from the fray—Mr Michael Foot, and the man he said he would support in the leadership election, Mr Peter Shore. The shadow foreign secretary has been very available for

broadcast comment in response to Government policies, but his prudence in the inner party disputes marks him out as a man who believes his time is coming.

Other pronouncements, such as Mr Clive Jenkins's support for Mr Callaghan staying on, take in very few party people, least of all the Leader of the Opposition. The desire of many on the left to hope that delay will finish off Mr Healey's hopes are well recognized.

Mr Callaghan professes to survey it all benignly, as if letting arguments contend, and flowers bloom in the best post-Mao style. He faces a very difficult decision in making up his mind whether to go or to stay would be best for the party. It parallels his decision not to hold a 1978 election.

Tories, of course, would be foolish to think that any of this lets them off the hook of current difficulty. The one-day Cabinet is most unlikely to lead to any change of economic policy and the so-called "wets" in the Cabinet know it; indeed the suspicion is voiced among them that they may have been "set up" by the leak of their supposed intentions to try forcing a U-turn. The line afterwards would be, when there was no U-turn that the wets were worthless after all. The disparagement of the moderate elements in both major parties is a doleful consequence of their leading factions making off for extreme opposing corners.



Lionheart—hoping for the most elusive trophy.

## Sportsview

### A lionhearted hope of glory

On Wednesday, Lionheart, the latest British challenger for the America's Cup, will be loaded into a container ship at Southampton before setting off on the most important voyage of her short life. Her destination is Newport, Rhode Island and her purpose is to compete for the most difficult sporting trophy to win in the world. Ever since the schooner America came to England in 1851 and won a cup for a race round the Isle of Wight, that trophy has never left the United States.

It is now so much a part of American sporting achievement, that the periodic attempts to wrest it away have developed into campaigns of rare intensity. For Americans, to lose the cup is unthinkable and when asked whatever could be mounted in its place, a past president of the NYAC is quoted as saying "The skull of the guy who lost it."

This year four countries, Britain, France, Australia and Sweden, have challenged with Britain's entry coming from the Royal Southern Yacht Club. Such is the present demand for the challenges that the Americans cannot meet every one and it is customary for the challenging yachts to fight it out among themselves for the right to meet the defender. The programme for the eliminations begins at Newport on August 5 with a round robin series in which each yacht will sail against each of the others. The America's cup races begin on September 15, the best of seven.

So much for the programme; what does it all involve? For everyone taking part, absolute dedication to their cause for a period of about two years. This involves a great deal of time and effort, which can only be provided by the expenditure of vast sums of money. It is money alone which makes a challenge feasible and the amount of money available has much to do with the success of the campaign.

It should be pointed out that although a challenge is on behalf of a club it is always individuals or syndicates who actually pay for the show and organize the effort. The Americans tend to do well in this form of yacht racing because they are willing to put up more money than anyone else.

It is not that their boats necessarily cost more than the others, there are simply more of them. Whereas the four challenging countries have between them, mustered two new boats, Lionheart and France III, and two modified previous challeng-

John Nici

An affectionate memory of the Field Marshal whose funeral was 30 years ago today

## Wavell's last journey



Lord Wavell with Lord Mountbatten who succeeded him as Viceroy of India.

Thirty years ago today Lord Wavell's funeral service was held in Westminster Abbey. He had died on May 24 from a swift onslaught of cancer and for two weeks later I received a sheepshead message from the Admiralty cancelling their objections. I imagine he had appealed to the King on the very proper grounds that it was as a former Viceroy of India that he was basing his claim.

Three more of Wavell's pallbearers are still alive: Field-Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, who will be 96 two weeks from today, and on whom I called last February in Marrakech, where he has lived for the last 10 years or so; General Sir Alan Cunningham, aged 93, and General Sir Richard O'Connor, aged 91.

Another, General Sir Arthur Smith, Wavell's Chief of Staff in the momentous North African campaigns of 1940-41, died three years ago, aged 87. When Wavell's coffin was borne upriver on an army launch from the Tower, Arthur Smith had accompanied it. At her bow stood a yeoman of the guard in full dress; lining her sides was a bearer party from the regiment under a young subaltern (now Major-General Andrew Watson, Chief of Staff,

## Music hall comes to Israel

There was a peculiar atmosphere to be sensed around this year's Jerusalem Spring Festival, which ended last week. It reminded me, somewhat uneasily, of another festival, long ago—the one of which Noel Coward adroitly rhymed British with skittish and added that to the wide-world world we must give an impression of devil-may-care. The people of Israel, beleaguered from within by their rampaging economic crisis and from without by just about everything and everybody, seem to be in much the same position.

They are ready to dress up in the latest casually striking local fashions, brush their hair carefully, put on their best, and flock to the plays, concerts and ballets. There they appear in the only kind of union they ever seem to achieve: that drink in the intervals, anything but alcohol while they chat animatedly in the marble-floored foyer of the great Jerusalem Theatre or the olive-blossom-scented courtyard of the Khan.

But, if you ask them "What do you think of it all?" they know you don't mean the show. The answers will run the gamut from "disastrous" to "catastrophic" and boast that they will go on to become the Deputy Premier's supine reluctance to resign, deplore Mr Arik Sharon's latest chauvinist lunacies, continue the national search for epitaphs to describe the Prime Minister (Hebrew is not yet rich enough and look give it to the terrorist murder of six Jews at Hebron is mentioned).

But still, the festival has been

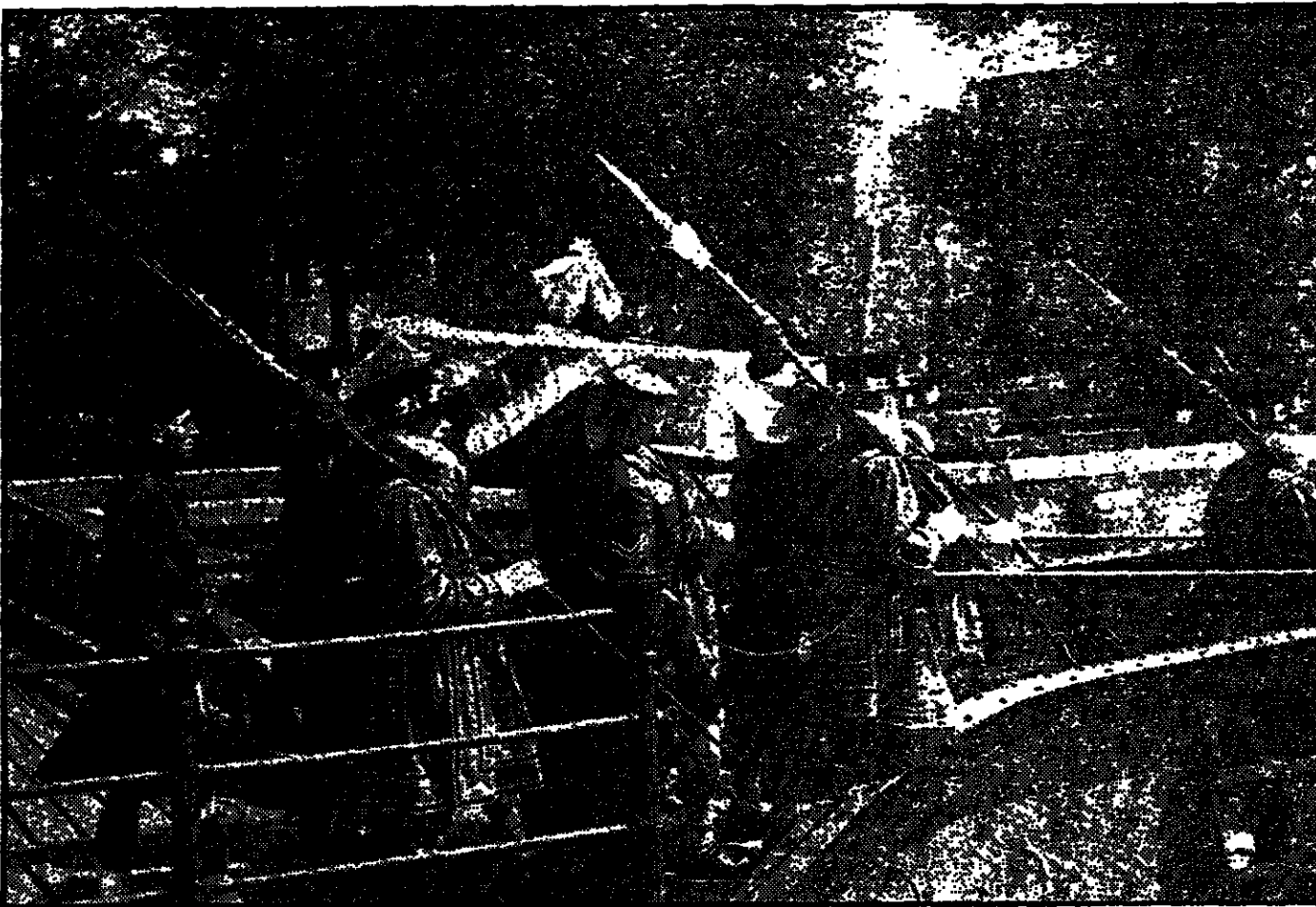
venture was Michael Alfred's Shared Experience, which presented *Cymbeline* and *An Arabian Night*. This likeable and brilliantly talented company was certainly the highlight in the theatrical part of the festival.

Britain provided the core of the events. It was a tickless experience to sit in an Israeli audience watching them receive their first taste of old-time music hall, learning to sing *My Old Man* and woefully failing to heckle the master of ceremonies.

The mastermind behind all this (and much more) is Avital Mossinson, an amiable giant who, during his seven-year tenure as director of the Jerusalem Theatre, only founded and built up the festival as an annual event, but according to the Mayor, Mr Teddy Kolek, has probably done more to raise the cultural level of Jerusalem than anyone else.

He has also done his best to cross the invisible barrier between the two parts of this reunited city by taking entertainment to the Arabs since they will not go to the theatres. "How would you like to go to a concert," they ask when he invites them, "and have your car stopped, and checked, and maybe broken into while you're in the theatre, to make sure you haven't got a bomb about you?" The unfication of Jerusalem, celebrated last week with enormous enthusiasm and pageantry, is far from fully accomplished in any cultural sense.

Lynne Reid Banks



Field Marshal Lord Wavell's coffin being taken from the Tower of London to an RASC launch on June 7, 1950.

Northern Europe), and Archie John, the second and last Earl Wavell, fated to be killed in action against the Mau Mau three years later.

The sun glinted on moral-work and side-arms and the yeoman's halberd; the flags of President and Discovery, and of all the buildings on either bank of the river, were at half-mast.

The procession was already formed up, with a detachment of Scots Guards, some Household Cavalry, our own pipes and drums and guard of honour and the gun-carriage from The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery. In those austere post-war days, we were all in khaki, but the field-marshal was carrying their batons.

As the launch approached, and I cajoled the distinguished pallbearers into taking their places, one of the field-marshal's aides asked me how he should carry his baton. I quickly consulted Lord Wilson of Libya, who said he had no idea, and Lord Montgomery of Alamein, who had not realized until that moment that he had left his at home. The others agreed on some ad hoc pro-

cedure while Monty put on a convincing act as of one who does not approve of batons on principle.

There was a vast crowd in Parliament Square and Victoria Street. The Abbey itself was packed. The one notable absentee was Mr Churchill, and I have never found it in my heart to forgive him for not being present.

Mr Attlee, the Prime Minister, had broken off a holiday abroad to attend, but Churchill, although no farther away than Chertwell, had sent General Fowell to represent him.

During the service, our pipe-major, who had lost an eye in Tobruk, played *Lochaber No more* and *After the Battle*, advancing from the Bath Chapel to the altar screen and back again so that his music first swelled and then faded away.

After the coffin was carried out through Poets' Corner—not inappropriate for Wavell—to where the hearse, the coaches and the cars awaited him and the escort: they were to take him on the long road journey to his old school, Winchester, where he

was to be buried in the Chantry Garth.

At this point in the proceedings there entered an element of farce which would have delighted Wavell. The police had arranged to hold the traffic lights from Westminster to Staines to let the cortege through but I was delayed in getting out of the Abbey. When at last I managed to join Major-General Lord Arbuthnot, Wavell's deputy as Colonel of the Regiment, in the last Daimler, we had the exhilarating experience of hurtling through the streets of London, preceded by police outriders on motorcycles at 30 mph. It was an anti-climax when we caught up the cortege at Shepherd's Bush and had to adjust to its pace.

At Staines police station the Metropolitan Police under the direction of Sir Philip Margeson, a former Scots Fusilier and an old friend of Wavell's, had arranged for us all to have beer and tea and giant beef sandwiches. These were the more welcome since it was now nearly 2 pm and the Jocks had been on parade since some damnable early hour.

Lord Ballantrae

## Letter from Devil's Island

### Memories of Dreyfus and death row

They are called the Islands of refuge, these three tiny specks of green dropped down in the Atlantic just five degrees north of the equator. The sea breeze cools them, the warm rain freshens them and the rich soil turns seeds into luxuriant vegetation in record time. Were it not for their terrible history the Îles du Salut would seem a tropical paradise.

But that history broods over them even from the shore from which their humpy black outline can be glimpsed near the horizon 10 miles out from the mouth of the Kourou River, to concentrate the mind a sturdy whitewashed tower still stands by the river-mouth—the scene of the last convict left. The gardens tended so painfully down the decades have gone back to nature. Trees thrust through the crumbling walls and vines clung at anyone straying from the little trod paths.

The rot of time and vegetation has meant that it is difficult now to tell the difference between the prison rows and the warders' cottages. The exiles—prisoners and warders—were different really only in death. The convicts were thrown in the sea to encourage the sharks; the warders were buried under fine tombstones. The warders' children, dead from yellow fever and malaria, had even finer tombstones.

Despite the tropical sunshine and sparkling waters a sense of evil seems to ooze from the crumbling stones and to escape from the rusting bars. The lean, close-cropped foreign legionnaires who garrison the island provide a suitable convict-like appearance sitting round the tables in the old guardhouse-turned-hotel on the top of the Île Royale.

History proved that Dreyfus had been grievously wronged. What it has also shown is that the sentences which sent 80,000 other French convicts to serve

their time in Guyane between 1852 and 1946 were also a grievous wrong to the colony and its people.

The three prison islands are said to have been "hell in paradise" and the memory lingers on more than 30 years after the last convict left. The gardens tended so painfully down the decades have gone back to nature. Trees thrust through the crumbling walls and vines clung at anyone straying from the little trod paths.

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The hotel takes in guests at 50 francs a night, but somehow it would seem to need a particularly insensitive sort of guest to stay there very long. A stroll down the old death row in the moonlight, ever through the guillotine, has now been removed, is the sort of thrill that does not need repeating too often.

Just as deportation spoiled the islands as a tropical paradise, so deportation spoiled Guyane itself as a prosperous country. The trouble was that the convicts were used as cheap though largely unproductive labour. And once they were finished their sentence they were forced to spend an equal length of time in Guyane before they could return to France.

This meant they had to find work, which was at best menial and did nothing to develop the country. The local population, however, became used to being able to hire cheap white labour and the habit remains. Not much farming is done because the Guyanese say "farming is whites' work". According to a recent survey provided for tourists "the Guyanese are first and foremost natural civil servants who are willing to leave the hard work to Colombians and Brazilians".

The result is that everything, look to Ariane, the EEC com-

from mineral water and fruit juice to shoes and building materials is imported from France. Fresh vegetables come from Surinam over the border, which is why the road signs are in Dutch along the main road westwards from Cayenne. The lack of work is exacerbated by the fact that Guyane is administratively a French department, which means that any employer has to pay the minimum legal French wage of 2,376 francs—an enormous sum to a Guyanese.

The arrival of the space age has for the first time given Guyane an industry on any scale, other than rum manufacture. Even so the building contractors for the space centre at Kourou found they had to recruit labour from the descendants of the escaped slaves, who emerged from the forests to build their own village near the space base. The local Guyanese did not want the work.

Spin-offs have begun to have some effect, however, be it in providing soft wood from rocket crates from which to carve souvenir armadillos and to build houses or in providing a new wealthy class of French deportees able to spend money freely. Restaurants, even those selling crocodile stew, are proliferating.

As a result, the Guyanese look to Ariane, the EEC com-

munications satellite as a kind of "fickle Lady". Wooden, tree-size are made like totems. The cinemas in Cayenne are r Ariane and Apollo; Chikita christened after Ariane, the "second" flight last month, a lot of tears shed.

If Guyane is to develop quickly, therefore, it is of the "space station" seem to be essential. I next flight were to it would need an expensive of will on behalf of the and their European partners keep the project going. "E long, luxurious jungle pushing through the stations: just as it has the cells on Devil's Island might not be too bad a The French technicians' space centre are as much as their convicted criminals of the past and the population is living off the less particularly. Were to leave and the Guyanese they had to develop their resources to survive. It provide a surer future of rocket Tower of Babel, ing for the heavens.

Ian Muir

هكذا من الاصل





## IE FOR A CUT

ates will come down. That is the message government ministers are spreading in an effort to quell the disquiet which is building up about the Government's policy in industry. The debate in Government and its not about the fund of policy; it is about the timing of a move as important as the borrowing requirement is the cause of high interest rates, the interest rates will thus be lower. Indeed, the Prime Minister admitted as much himself.

Why then should the Government seek, effectively, to be selling gilts now at a rate which assumes that it had not succeeded in reaching an agreement with the EEC? It is not as if the refund is some sort of speculative guess of what may be received; the agreement is clear cut and secure. It is thus safe to make Government funding plans and interest rate plans accordingly.

It seems likely that the delay in receipt of the refund from Europe is just a smokescreen to conceal the real reason for postponing a move on interest rates. This is that the authorities remain worried about bank lending to the private sector, which has remained remarkably buoyant. But a significant proportion of this is now going to pay the interest bills of companies; and bank lending will, in any case, decline as the recession gathers force.

There is in any case no reason to focus on one component of money supply, rather than the total money supply itself. Step by step the Government has edged away from a monetary policy and towards a credit policy. Had it been more convinced of the primacy of monetary targets it would have allowed interest rates to fall in response to the slowdown in monetary growth which has been clear for several months.

## LOCK OVER KAMPUCHEA

at six months since troops moved into Cambodia and there are no withdrawal. It is fully six months since Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea. Pol Pot government is still in occupation and neither sanctions nor military action is being exerted to deplore, but with the fact that they face a much more active Vietnam.

It is involvement of a is one reason why takes precedence in the world of con- palling brutality of own Pol Pot govern- nor systematic and than that of Hafiz, is another. The g non-communist ped in Asean, agree ciple of non-involvement. Sino-Soviet conflict, difficult to apply in they refuse, rightly, e the Heng Samrin but are not pre- as the restoration of Roules. The aim is ut Vietnamese, but possible, by direct with a view to re- kind of indepen- mpuchea and ending to Asean posed by power.

is the country most this threat, which re-

calls the rivalry of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, before France intervened. Now that rivalry is revived it is natural for the Thais to look to a powerful ally such as China to redress the balance in their favour. By contrast Singapore's anti-communism is sterner. Malaysia wishes to keep China at arm's length, and Indonesia has not even restored the diplomatic relations broken with China after 1965.

In continuing to support the Khmers Rouges the Chinese admit that movement's terrible record but believe they have now reformed themselves as a more nationalist and tolerant body. The Thais, saddled with rival groups of Khmer guerrillas (not to mention thousands of refugees), have little confidence in the reform and their Asean colleagues are not convinced either.

It has been suggested that some concession to the Heng Samrin government might at least help to loosen Vietnamese ties with the Soviet Union. The Vietnamese are not very forthcoming friends, and the Russians have come to resent the amount of military and economic aid they require. But loosening their ties with the Russians will serve no purpose unless at the same time their relations with China are improved. There are no signs of that.

The conclusion to be drawn from the recent tour to some Asean capitals by the Vietnamese

This slowdown may be distorted in the near future by the impact of the reappearance in the system of money which was driven out of it by the "corset" of bank restrictions. It has been estimated that this will increase the money supply by two to three per cent. But this does not truly represent growth in the money supply at present; it is simply a case of the statistics catching up with what happened in the past.

The apparently bad figures which are likely over the coming months, are thus no more of an excuse for holding interest rates high than are any of the other reasons put forward. There is no doubt that the persistence of high interest rates makes it easier for the authorities to fund their borrowing needs. Against the background of a Government policy which aims to reduce inflation to perhaps five per cent by 1984, gilt-edged securities offering a yield of nearly fourteen per cent for the next fifteen years are obviously attractive to investors.

But the price of this easy funding will be a heavy burden of interest to be paid by us all over the years ahead. At the same time, the Government ought to remember that industry has funding requirements which need to be met, too. As the Chancellor admitted in his speech at Brighton yesterday, a disproportionate burden of the current policy is falling on industry. It is time for Government to lighten the load.

Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach, is that at an end of any support to the Khmers Rouges by Asean members would mean only a partial withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. The nub of the problem is Vietnam's suspicion of China. The Chinese believe that Kampuchea and Laos should be independent of Vietnam and by being so would help to limit Vietnamese power. The Vietnamese are convinced that if they do not dominate the two countries, China will.

This deadlock is one that Asean has little hope of lessening. What Asean can insist on is that Vietnam has no right to dominate either Kampuchea or Laos. Both countries are completely different in race, culture and religion from Vietnam; they have nothing in common except the experience of French rule, which left the Vietnamese with the feeling that they were the natural leaders of Indo-China. Their claim to this role has now been pursued by military power to the point of near disaster in their internal economy.

In the long run Khmer nationalism will no more accept Vietnamese domination than Afghan nationalism will endure a Russian presence. But at the moment there seems no nucleus of political society that can give expression to this nationalism, so disastrous has been Kampuchea's suffering in the past five years.

## The ghost train

From Dr H. G. Judge  
Sir, Residents of this place are distinguished, if by nothing else then at least by a respect for railways and a reputation for exact scholarship in the interpretation of time-tables.

I have had occasion within the last few days to travel to and from Oxford by train. The timetable, published at Oxford station, announces the departure of a train at 12.58 (Saturdays excepted) arriving at Swindon at 12.46. This must be a record.

The traveller returning from the West is told by the timetable published at Swindon station that a train leaves that place at 19.40 to arrive (but not on Saturdays) in Oxford at 20.05. This is not an impressive, although hardly a serious threat to the record established by the timetable for the journey in the opposite direction (that is, either minus 12 minutes, or 23 hours and 48 minutes).

But there are maps for the up-land. No train leaves Oxford for Swindon, Didcot or anywhere else at 12.58. As for the man returning through Swindon, the timetable there is emphatic that he must—if he is to take the advertised 19.40 to Oxford—change at Didcot. But no train leaves for Didcot at 19.40, so he too has a problem.

Observers have now been placed at Oxford station to report the exact length of the delay between the publication of this letter in *The Times* and the making of the necessary corrections to the timetable. Others must attend to the interests of Swindon. Many will conclude that only a Cambridge man could have devised this subtle plan to confuse those wisely attempting to find their way to Oxford at the beginning of term or from it at the end.

Covered, victor.  
Yours faithfully,  
H. G. JUDGE.  
Brasenose College,  
Oxford.  
June 6.

## By any other name

From Mr Ewen Montagu, QC  
Sir, Some of us who are old enough will remember that, in the First World War, sauerkraut became "Liberty Cabbage" on American menus.  
I am, Sir, etc.  
EWEN E. S. MONTAGU,  
24 Montrose Court,  
Exhibition Road, SW7.  
June 3.

## Rights and wrongs in the Middle East conflict

From Major Saad Haddad

Sir, The report from your correspondent Robert Fisk, which was made the leading story in your edition of May 21 must have misled both yourself and your readers. It was not an objective piece of reporting, but a reflection of a perhaps frustrated state of mind at United Nations Headquarters in South Lebanon and at the United Nations Secretariat in New York.

For example, the implication of the article is that 15 United Nations soldiers have been killed by the "Christian militia" under my command, two of them "murdered". The facts are the following:

During a demonstration in the town of Bint Jebel in mid-April a Lebanese boy of 15 was shot and killed by members of the Irish battalion, and the subsequent killing of two Irish soldiers was an act of revenge by the boy's family.

I not only warned the United Nations command of the dangerous situation which had arisen in the area as a result of the boy's death, but I also protected and saved the lives of a number of Irish soldiers threatened with death by relatives of the young man.

It is also untrue that 15 United Nations soldiers have been killed, by my men. Since 1978 45 United Nations soldiers have been killed, and at least one, a French colonel, crippled for life; of these, four were killed in clashes with my soldiers, and the rest by "armed elements", which is the United Nations spokesman's (himself a Palestinian) term for the Palestinian and Lebanese "progressive" forces which operate in Lebanon under the command of Mr Yasser Arafat. These facts can be verified in United Nations reports made to the Secretary General.

Again, Mr Fisk's report and your headline imply that my forces and myself are the main cause of United Nations frustrations in Lebanon. Leaving aside the untrue, and cheap, allegation that I promoted myself to the rank of Major, I wish to make clear that I have never sought to frustrate the real mission of the United Nations forces in Lebanon (Unifil), which is to help restore Lebanese sovereignty over the South. It is not my fault that Unifil has encountered two major obstacles to its mission.

The first is that the Lebanese state has so far been unable to assert its sovereignty not only in the areas where Unifil is stationed, but over a large area of the country, including the capital, Beirut. For example, the Lebanese Army has not been permitted by the Syrian Deterrent Force, nor by the Palestinian-Progressive alliance, to enter into Beirut or into the commercial centre and heart of Beirut. In fact, the only areas of Beirut where the Lebanese Army operates are those where the "Lebanese forces" or the so-called "Christian militia" use the favourite and misleading cliché of Mr Fisk and other journalists, exist.

The second obstacle to the mission of Unifil is the fact that no stable communication between Beirut and South Lebanon has been established for either UN soldiers or the Lebanese Army. The area south of Beirut until the city of Tyre, including all the area between the Zahrani and Litani rivers is under the control of the Palestinian and their local allies, and it is from there that the area of Free Lebanon under my command is constantly bombed, and its villages and population harassed.

If Unifil were to take over this area of Lebanon, the influence of Palestinian and their allies would increase, and there would be an escalation of the infernal cycle of frontier raids and reprisals in which the Lebanese population as usual, would be the principal victims. And if the Lebanese Army were to accompany or follow Unifil, it would be at the mercy of the Palestinians and their allies who control the lines of communication.

Faced with the present weakness and almost non-existence of the Lebanese State, the only way to Free Lebanon offers the only security for the Lebanese towns and villages in the South, and instead of constantly trying to denigrate and undermine my efforts to maintain order and stability, will would be to make more serious efforts to prevent Palestinian infiltration, and if Dr Waldheim were to be less zealous in his efforts to help the Palestinians at the expense of the Lebanese.

In 1976 I was charged by President Frangie with the mission of preserving Lebanese sovereignty in the South. With the help of a handful of officers and soldiers who remained loyal to the Lebanese Army, which I have the honour to belong, and with the increasing support of the Lebanese civilian population in the area who are overwhelmingly Muslim, it is my intention to continue my mission. I have hitherto been able to exercise effective control over the whole country.

Yours,  
SAAD HADDAD,  
Commander of Free Lebanon,  
Marjayoun,  
Free Lebanon,  
May 27.

From Mr W. R. Becler van Blokkland  
Sir, The Ambassador of Israel sharply attacks your Middle East Correspondent in these columns (June 3) for his coverage of the situation in Southern Lebanon, and more especially, for reporting that a certain suspicion of Israeli intentions in the area is widespread among Unifil officers.

I have recently returned from Southern Lebanon, where I served for eight months as an officer-interpreter with the Netherlands Battalion of the United Nations Interim Force. I found your correspondent's description of the bizarre problem facing Unifil, and the frustration felt by its personnel, to be more accurate than any description I have hitherto read that dealt with the same "biect". The Ambassador is shocked and incredulous that anyone should entertain dark thoughts about his country's intentions in Southern Lebanon. Perhaps I may suggest a reason for such suspicions.

In September, 1979, I was present,

with other UN officers, at a series of negotiations between Major Haddad and Unifil's Chief of Operations. The subject under discussion was the recent incursion of militia armour into the village of Beit Yahu, which is situated in the UN area of operations. After barely ten minutes of heated debate Major Haddad was bluntly overruled by an Israeli liaison officer and thereafter made no further contribution to the discussion, nor did he go through the motions of doing so. Thus it was, that in the ensuing two hours the Unifil C.O.O. found himself negotiating with an Israeli colonel on matters affecting the disposition of Major Haddad's "own" Sherman tanks on Lebanese territory.

It should therefore come as no surprise to anyone that when UN positions and Lebanese villages in the Unifil area are operationally under fire from Major Haddad's forces, as they do almost every day, some of Unifil's officers should feel that there is more to this than meets the eye.

Yours sincerely,  
W. R. BECLER VAN BLOKKLAND,  
52 Thorpebank Road, W12.  
June 5.

From the Mayor of Hebron and others

Sir, We hope that people in Britain will draw the right conclusion from yesterday's (June 3) horrifying attack on our fellow Mayors in the West Bank and on townspeople of Hebron. For you British, far away from the scene, in occupied Palestine and plagued by a "murderous conflict of your own in Ulster, it must be all too easy to shrug your shoulders, to cry a plague on both your houses, and to dismiss yesterday's atrocities as just the latest in an unending senseless vendetta between Jew and Arab in Palestine in which both sides are equally to blame. You would be wrong to do so.

We do not propose scoring points by asking who has committed greater and more numerous acts of violence or who has the greater justification for resorting to violence, the oppressed or the oppressor. The one essential conclusion that we wish you to ponder as you contemplate this dreadful chain of mounting atrocity in the West Bank is that every single act of violence has one primary cause: Israel's illegal occupation. So long as that basis, violence is bound to continue, and to grow.

It is this wicked occupation that is poisoning the hearts and minds of Palestinian Arabs, and is driving Israel into ever more brutal repression and the Palestinians into ever more violent reaction. The only remedy is to remove the source of the poison and to remove it wholly. Unifil, as you say, is not a cure for half-measures which leave the "cancer" behind to spread again its malignant infection. So long as any of these fanatical Zionist settlers/terrorists remain in our midst in the West Bank and Gaza, there can be no real peace.

Their arrogance and selfish greed are beyond reason or restraint. They cannot forswear violence because robbery of their neighbours and denial of their rights are embedded in their perverted vision of the world, and because of the strength of Zionism within Israel itself, these fanatics will always be able to summon Israel to their aid when their outrageous conduct has provoked a reaction from their neighbours. That they lie near but not far from the truth is not their fault.

Britain and the other EEC governments in their statements on the Middle East have rightly emphasized "the need for Israel to end the territorial occupation which it has maintained since the 1967 conflict. That is indeed the only real requirement for peace. Once that is assured, all other problems will become easier to resolve. But what is needed from Europe now is not just more words.

The Palestinian people suffering from unjust occupation in the West Bank and Gaza have to be given a free action to bring their message home to America and Israel. And to do so soon before even worse things happen.

Yours faithfully,  
FAHD QAWASMA,  
ABDUL MONEEM AL-MILHEM,  
Mayor of Halhul,  
SHEIKH RAJAB AL-TAMMIL,  
Cadi of Hebron,  
52 Green Street, W1.  
June 3.

From Dr Martin Kolinsky  
Sir, The answer to your question, "Who is subverting Camp David?" (June 2), is more complex than your leader indicated. In singling out the Israeli Government for criticism, as if that could explain the whole situation, a substantial amount of relevant context was lost from sight.

First, President Sadat suspended the talks on Palestinian autonomy early in May, in order to deal with key domestic matters (the economy and a constitutional referendum which perpetuates his hold on office). Egypt has since announced that it is willing to resume talks, but the Israeli government has refused to do so.

Secondly, Egypt has remained isolated in the Arab world because of its search for peace with Israel. While it is not difficult to understand that countries such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan have to exercise caution with regard to peace moves, there is, surely, a limit beyond which caution becomes self-defeating paralysis. Given that their strategic and economic interests are anchored in the West, it is imperative for them to make a constructive contribution to a negotiated overall settlement. The hope that these countries should nourish about European initiative is illusory: if the spirit of compromise with Egypt and Israel is avoided for too much longer, the chances of instability minimal to them will increase.

Thirdly, some EEC governments have been feeding these illusions through the notion that stability can be achieved on the cheap by endorsing the "Palestine Liberation Organisation" and somehow understanding its aims. But like previous poorly conceived notions concerning the Middle East, it could unleash more disorder and tragedy. President Carter was absolutely right to squish it.

European governments should now concentrate on the essential, that is, to reinforce (rather than undermine) the cohesion of the Western alliance. As far as the West Bank is concerned, it means an explicit recognition that Palestinian autonomy will have to be exercised in a situation which firmly guarantees Israel's security requirements and vital interests in the area. There is room for compromise, but not for an artificial mini-state. That would be frankly recognized as the only way in which stable change can be achieved.

Yours sincerely,  
M. KOLINSKY,  
University of Birmingham (Faculty of Commerce and Social Science),  
Muirhead Tower,  
Rivington North,  
Birmingham,  
June 2.

From Mr Robert Swann  
Sir, The Ambassador of Israel (June 3) asserts that there is not the slightest evidence that Israel would like to reoccupy Southern Lebanon. Many would say that the present facts speak for themselves. For beyond that, there has been a recurrent theme of Zionist aspirations for decades past.

The original blueprints for the Zionist state included the area up to the Litani river; for example the Zionist delegation at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919 defined the area they wanted as "starting in the north at a point of the Mediterranean Sea in the vicinity south of Sidon and following the watershed of the foothills of the Lebanon as far as just El Karoun". Then, too, there was Ben-Gurion's entry in his diary of May 21, 1947: "The Jewish Agency has decided to agree to the UN Partition Plan. The Jewish Agency is the Lebanon. Muslim supremacy in this country is artificial and can easily be overturned. A Christian state ought to be set up there, with its southern frontier on the river Litani."

Eight years later Prime Minister Moshe Sharett in his diaries foretold Israel's meddling today in the Lebanon with uncanny precision: "According to Dayan, the only thing that is necessary is to find an officer, be he just a major. We should either conquer his heart or buy him with money. We should agree to declare himself the saviour of the Maronite population. Then the Israeli army will enter Lebanon, will occupy the necessary territory and will create a Christian regime which will ally itself with Israel. The territory from the Litani south of Sidon will be today annexed to Israel" (Sharett's Diaries, May 16, 1955).

If His Excellency remains unconvinced, perhaps I may remind him of Moshe Dayan's comment, as reported in the *Jewish Chronicle* on October 6, 1967: "Israel's borders (sic, post 1967), with the exception of that with Lebanon, are ideal" (emphasis added).

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT SWANN,  
8 rue des Volontaires,  
Paris.  
June 5.

From Lieutenant-Colonel David Preiskel  
Sir, I am a fervent supporter of historical truth, not of Mr Begin. "Who is subverting Camp David?" (June 2) should have been put in the past tense. As soon as that agreement was announced, the French, Greek, Israeli and American initiatives (vide Afghanistan), sent up a French mirage, in the shape of "a comprehensive peace settlement", to shoot it down. Other members of the EEC either remained silent or damned the agreement with faint praise. It was only to be expected that a flock of irresolute sheep would sooner or later follow a resolute leader and also obvious that, thus encouraged, no moderate Palestinian leader would settle for less than a return to the status quo ante 1967, no recognition of Israel and, at best, another "cease-fire". As for the PLO, who would ultimately dominate such an entity, it has consistently and persistently called for the destruction of Israel, as confirmed by your correspondent Robert Fisk (June 2), writing from Beirut.

Did Begin, at Camp David, agree to the creation of a second independent Palestinian state? Definitely not. He promised autonomy—people not territory. Neither Sadat nor Carter demanded an independent state, and the latter went out of his way to stress that such a possibility was not envisaged. And yet the present impasse in Egyptian-Israeli negotiations is precisely over the foundations for such a state. Who has subverted and who is subverting Camp David?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID PREISKEL,  
37 Kylesome Avenue, NW6.  
June 2.

From Mr Neil Peterman  
Sir, Your correspondent, Christopher Walker, reporting from Ramallah, tells us that "Scores of local Palestinian women began clearing up the aftermath of a riotous spread that the Israeli sapper, whose bloody and badly disfigured body had been wheeled through minutes earlier, had, died of his wounds."

It is the representatives of these people Israel is now being urged to clear up into a meeting with so that the two sides can sit down and talk like human beings. Who is the rest of the world trying to kid?

Yours faithfully,  
NEIL PETERMAN,  
30 West Avenue, N3.  
June 3.

From Dr Tim Paine  
Sir, Sir Keith's "bindweed of state power" (letter, June 3) is evidently a somewhat obscure (Greater Bindweed), "its roots being long and penetrating in a dense mass that exhausts the soil", strangling plants nearby. (Mrs Grieve—*A Modern Herbal*).

The cure is nicely political: force it to twice, left to right, rather than its natural right to left, and it "will eventually perish".

Yours faithfully,  
TIM PAINE,  
13 Limerick Road,  
Bristol.

## How Czechs found freedom in 1940

From Mr Franta Belaky

Sir, While there are still people who remember a sequence of events leading to one troop's evacuation from fallen France (for there are no official records of it, so far as I know) an episode might be added to the history of how units of the Czechoslovak Division worked their way to ports of Southern France, wishing to go anywhere where the war against the Nazis could be carried on, and became the last Allies to leave France.

The English Channel was cut off by them; the French campaign was over. We did not choose to comply with the terms of the capitulation and lay down arms, wait for disbandment and "repatriation". Nor only the Wehrmacht but the Vichy authorities did not consider us as POWs but as traitors and agents, and would have handed us over to the Gestapo, although we did not know this at the time.

Meanwhile, a move took place in London: the Czech President Benes (heavily the government in exile) intervened with Winston Churchill, who instantly ordered ships within call of southern ports to come to pick us up.

All along the way we encountered obstruction and hindrance but in Sète a strange mixture of military and Garde Mobile actually set about disarming us. Fooling them became a weird game; we rolled horse blankets round the Czech-made Bren guns and the handy little cavalry carbines with folding bayonets and the splendid French range finders (the like of which the Royal Artillery never possessed) and smuggled them aboard to see them give later years of service.

Physical attempts were actually made to prevent the evacuation, and here the role of General Faucher should be remembered: a friend of the Czechs and a man striving to mitigate his country's part in the Munich days a year and a half earlier, he used his authority and saved a good many men.

So much water round the jetty of Sète: there is a new generation of French, just as there is of Germans and British.

Ironically, I found myself being saved by a coaler called Northmoor belonging to Lord Runciman, Neville Chamberlain's adjutant in the crisis days preceding the Bad Godesberg and Munich conference. We signalled, avoiding U-boats, slept in the coal, caught a steam train, the deck witches, lived on sardines, apricot jam and a bottle of rum, and finally reached Plymouth on July 7, 1940, six weeks after the BEF left Dunkirk.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANTA BELSKY,  
12 Pembroke Studios,  
Olmstead Gardens, W8.  
June 4.

## Grass roots

From Mr Michael Brown

Sir, The thinking that lies at the basis of French agricultural policy seems to be little advertised (or understood?) by the commentators on reads here; nor do the French seem to be aware of the internal political reasons, give them their proper prominence. Surely what they see at stake and what they are fighting to preserve is a way of life—the small farmer with his roots in the land; which they see (rather in the Roman sense) as a stock in source of virtue for the whole nation, and for a scale and type of farming which does not bully and terrorize the landscape into a state of grovelling submission—as if it were some nineteenth-century work slave.

Of course, for the sake of a few pence off our food have gone a long way to reducing what was once a countryside of unparalleled richness and variety into something impersonal and characterless—a mere food factory—its villages inhabited by commuters. The French should perhaps be commended rather than vilified for recognizing that the pursuit of mere cheapness and efficiency is, in this instance, far too high a price to pay.

Yours sincerely,  
MICHAEL BROWN,  
37 Shering Road,  
Old Harlow,  
Essex.  
May 31.

## Forcing the pace

From Mr M. C. G. Ouston

Sir, I am sure I share with other cricket lovers a sense of disappointment that only 84 overs were in a full day's cricket at Trent Bridge yesterday (June 5). This is not the spirit in which the game evolved, so is it not time for new rules to be introduced?

I would suggest that there should be a minimum of 100 overs in a full day's play, with at least 30 overs in each session. This could be enforced by awarding to the batting side four bonus runs for each over that was not bowled.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL OUSTON,  
Gordon House,  
12 Guilford Street, WC1.  
June 6.

## Discontent situation

From Mr Laurence James

Sir, The Chairman of the Richard III Society predictably suggests "Summer of discontent" (June 3) that the National Theatre should apologize for alleged distortions and inaccuracies in Shakespeare's *Richard III*. What a pity that Richard III is not alive today so that he could make use of your columns to speak for himself. Then he could at length show how his upbringing among the nobility of fifteenth-century England caused him "deprivation" and how he failed to "socialize with his peer group". Finally, impelled by circumstances beyond his control, he was forced into a "usurpation situation" and a "crown interchange".

Yours faithfully,  
LAURENCE JAMES,  
Sedburgh School,  
Sedburgh,  
Cumbria.  
June 4.















# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

**LAING**  
make ideas take shape

### Motor industry facing slump with stockpile of 400,000 cars

By Edward Townsend

Britain is in danger of becoming a huge car park of unsold vehicles. Sales in May fell by a third for the second successive month and it is estimated that there are 400,000 new cars now awaiting buyers.

After a buoyant start to the year, when sales appeared to be matching last year's high levels, the United Kingdom market is now sliding towards a slump.

Competition between showrooms is fierce, with dealers offering widespread and big discounts to attract buyers.

In the first five months, sales were down 10 per cent on a year earlier, which, if continued for the remainder of 1980, would result in a total market of about 1.5 million units compared with 1.7 million in 1979. This is in line with the Society of Motor Manufacturers' and Traders' prediction for the year, although some industry leaders believe the market could decline to 1.35 million.

The May figures, published today, show sales of 128,174 against 193,269 a year earlier, and a five-month total of 745,570.

In the first five months, imports—including the "tid" imports of BL, Ford, Talbot and Vauxhall—captured 57.39 per cent of sales against 55.3 per cent a year ago.

Of the 400,000 cars lying

unsold, it is estimated that 70,000 are Japanese, a figure that equals the level of Japanese sales expected for the rest of the year.

However, with little expectation of a curtailment of Japanese shipments, British manufacturers led by Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of BL, are becoming increasingly concerned that the Japanese will boost their market share. In the last two months this has been about 12 per cent, against the Japanese industry's voluntary restraint figure of nearer 10 per cent.

Meanwhile, Ford and Vauxhall have announced short time working between now and the summer holidays and lay-offs and redundancies are increasing in the vital components industry.

Reports yesterday said that BL's stock of new cars was about 75,000, significantly less than the 115,000 it had before the launch of its "Buy British" campaign earlier in the year.

Vauxhall stocks were said to number 40,000, equal to about four months' sales, and Talbot had 42,000.

Ford continued to be market leader in May, capturing 32.5 per cent of the market. BL's share dropped slightly to 18 per cent. The state-owned company is expected to drop further this month as the old Marina model is phased out in readiness for the launch in July of the new Marina, called Ital.

### US unemployment up sharply again

For the second successive month the United States unemployment rate has risen sharply. The seasonally adjusted figure was 7.8 per cent of the workforce compared with 7.7 per cent in April and 6.2 per cent in March.

The Labour Department said total employment in May fell 0.2 per cent on 166,000 to an estimated 97 million after falling 0.5 per cent or 502,000 in April to 97.2 million.

The rate of increase in unemployment seems steady. In May the number unemployed rose 12.2 per cent (889,000) to an adjusted 8.2 million after rising 12.8 per cent or 827,000 in April to 7.3 million.

More men than women became unemployed during May although the percentage of men and women unemployed is now equal.

For teenagers suffered the highest increase in unemployment. The number of teenagers out of work rose sharply to 19.2

per cent in May from 16.2 per cent in April. Black unemployment increased to an adjusted 12.9 per cent.

Wholesale price inflation falls: The latest increase in producer prices of finished goods in the United States was the smallest since September 1977. Producer prices of finished goods in May rose a seasonally adjusted 0.3 per cent, which is a year on equals a rise of 3.6 per cent before compounding.

Money supply down: The nation's basic money supply M1-A fell to a seasonally-adjusted average of \$369,800m in the week ended May 28 from \$370,400m the previous week.

The broader money supply known as M1-B declined to an average of \$387,300m in the week from \$387,800m a week ago, the Federal Reserve reported.

For the latest four weeks M1-A averaged \$370,000m, a 6.5 per cent rate of decline from 13 weeks ago. M1-B averaged \$387,700m.

### US set for Chinese investment

From Michael Leapman

New York, June 6

An agreement that could lead to substantial American investments in China was announced here this afternoon by Mr Rong Viren, chairman of the China International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC), and Mr David Rockefeller, chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank, at the end of a two-day forum on the Chinese economy.

The plan calls for an exchange of specialists between the bank and CITIC to explore means of mutual co-operation. When the soundings are completed, CITIC and Chase will pursue actively joint economic cooperation.

Chase's merchant banking group is expected to be financial adviser and will help raise funds for the agreed projects. Chase may open an office in Peking and CITIC may open one in New York.

### Lonrho 'wants Fraser on the cheap'

By Catherine Gunn

Sir Hugh Fraser acknowledged yesterday that Lonrho may launch a takeover bid for House of Fraser if Lonrho loses its attempt to replace with its own men four House of Fraser directors due for reelection later this month.

Sir Hugh, House of Fraser's chairman, said: "I doubt very much if I am in a position to make an offer, but if anyone made a cash offer, the board would have to look at it."

House of Fraser, which owns Harrods in London's Knightsbridge, completes its gradual three-year property revaluation this year. The company is worth "well over £250m", Sir Hugh said yesterday, although on the stock market it is valued at £212m.

Lonrho's assault on the board is seen as the chief issue of the two-day proxy battle between the two groups. "A question of creeping control comes in here", Sir Hugh said.

Lonrho has almost 30 per cent of House of Fraser's shares, and Sir Hugh says Mr Rowland, Lonrho's chief executive, is now trying to gain control of

the group "without paying a penny for it".

"Lonrho's say House of Fraser needs a change of management."

Sir Hugh said of the Lonrho attempt to force the final net dividend up from 5p to 6p: "I think this was a platform to bring up the question of the other four directors."

He also suspects that it may be a ploy to preempt any defensive move by House of Fraser to put up the dividend if there is a bid. Sir Hugh added that the board would not have done this anyway.

The argument over the dividend started after the board declared that the 4p net dividend, Sir Hugh says, Mr Rowland, who is on the House of Fraser board, suggested an 8p final payout. That would have given a 10p net total dividend which would not have been covered on current cost accounting and only covered by historic earnings. Mr Rowland maintains that the two men have an understanding that the net final would be 7.5p.

Nevertheless, the board settled for the 6p net payout

for the year which is "covered historically 21 times".

Mr Paul Spicer, a director of Lonrho, said yesterday that the attempt to replace the four directors would probably not have been made if the higher dividend had been agreed.

Sir Hugh said that in late February Mr Rowland "telephoned the House of Fraser company secretary and left a message for Sir Hugh that should 'put the blue pencil' through any ideas of expansion."

He regarded this as "interference" in the company.

Mr Rowland, through Mr Spicer, says this claim is "utter rubbish". But House of Fraser claims to have a written record of the call.

Sir Hugh is due for reelection this year and Mr Rowland, as non-executive deputy chairman, is due for reelection next year.

Sir Hugh said: "That is possibly why Mr Rowland did not go against the reelection of myself."

At a annual meeting on June 19 in Glasgow, Sir Hugh is "very confident" of winning the divided argument because Lonrho would need a 75 per cent majority. But the battle for

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### Battery car 'runs for 200 miles at 55 mph'

By Bill Johnston

Gulf & Western Industries of the United States have developed an electric car with a new design of built-in battery which is said to have been running for 200,000 miles.

The success is the result of experiments which have been conducted by the company over the past decade at a cost of \$16m (approximately £7m). This figure was matched by a similar amount from the United States Department of Energy and the Electrical Power Research Institute. A further \$11m has been allocated to the project by these agencies, bringing the total to \$43m.

The present experiment, using an electric conversion of a Volkswagen Golf, has been going on for more than four years. A DC motor drives the vehicle, fed by a battery which fits beneath the car, composed of about 60 cells generating between 36 to 40 kilowatts.

The power is said to be sufficient to drive the car loaded with four passengers over a range of 200 miles at 55 miles per hour with one single overnight charge.

The weight of batteries has always been the critical factor in electric cars. The manufacturers claim that their system is about a third the weight of a conventional lead acid, powered system.

When the cells were activated by the electrolyte, the motor at the rear of the car is powered. The next stage for the manufacturers is to develop the DC motor which they are currently using into one which may give better performance. At the moment that performance, Gulf & Western claims, is indistinguishable from that expected of the same model driven by petrol.



Mr David Judelson, Gulf & Western's president, centre, Dr Milton Hollander, technology vice-president, right, and Mr John Rowan, president of a group subsidiary, seen with the engine unit.

### BNOC reveals new oil find

By Nicholas Hirst

Energy Correspondent

The British National Oil Corporation has found more oil in the offshore block 211/18 which contains: part of the Tistie field.

As operator for the Halibut group, the BNOC yesterday announced that a second well close to a discovery made in 1976 had revealed hydrocarbons but it has not yet been tested to know whether the find could prove commercial.

The 1976 discovery two kilometres away was tested at 9,000 barrels a day. The water depth of the new well is a relatively shallow 260ft, but the structure is taking is complex and exploitation of the oil could prove expensive.

Nevertheless, the 211/18 block is proving to be of considerable interest. Mr Ronald Utiger, chairman of the BNOC, mentioned appraisal drilling was being carried out near the Tistie field at the corporation's press conference on its annual report earlier this year. It is thought that these finds could form the next development by BNOC as an operator.

Speculation over the possible size of the finds, however, is premature. BNOC announced it had encountered hydrocarbons in its new well because Tricentrol, one of the Halibut group partners, which is acquiring a listing in the United States next week, has to publish such information to the Securities Exchange Commission.

Not British practice would have been to delay an announcement until the well had been fully tested. Partners in the Halibut group include Deminor and Charterhouse.

### Building society May receipts in doldrums

By Margaret Stone

Building society net receipts for May, due to be published next week, are once again in the doldrums at around £200m. This compares with the improvement to £266m shown in the previous month.

The figures which reflect a particularly poor start to the month, are disappointing to building society leaders who had begun to hope that a slightly better trend was emerging, and that May would at least consolidate the April improvement.

Interest rates offered by societies are not proving competitive, despite the hardening in the gilt market last month. But although new money is slow to come in, interest paid to investors is sticking—much to the relief of the societies. Margins are already under pressure and the situation will be made worse by an expected

increase in the composite rate of tax paid by societies collectively at present 21 per cent. This is expected to rise by 11 to 2 points after the triennial statistical investigation by the Inland Revenue.

Although the new composite rate will not emerge until August, it will be backdated to April. The higher rate will intensify the pressure on margins and make it virtually certain that most societies will be reporting substantially smaller surpluses (their equivalent to profits) this year.

This should not, however, impede their activities. Most societies, for example, are no longer pushing on with expensive branch expansions as quickly as they were; but many of them will be putting rather less to reserves than they have done in recent years.

### Pergamon move on Infoline

By Our Industrial Staff

Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Press has made a bid for a stake in Infoline, the computerized data service to industry.

The bid is undisclosed but it could be more than £1m. Infoline was set up several years ago but was only rarely used to sell its data on patents and chemicals. Pergamon, for the year, its fundings has until now been provided by Derwent Publications, the Chemical Society, the Institution of Electrical Engineers, the Department of Industry and the British Library.

Each partner contributed £300,000 to the venture and supplied a great deal of the data.

The involvement of Pergamon would be consistent with the company's philosophy. It owns 360 journals and has access to many different data bases around the world including biology, medicine, geology and patents.

Infoline has been growing well since last September and has acquired 350 clients, all consulting computer files on patents and chemistry at £350 an hour.

Anyone with an electronic terminal can dial through a normal telephone line

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### Legally void sale agreement by board of Bamfords

By Philip Robinson

And Bryan Appleyard

The board of Bamfords, the publicly quoted agricultural machinery maker, has announced on June 2 that it was going into voluntary liquidation, entered into a legally void agreement to sell certain assets in the days leading up to the announcement.

The action was the decision to contract to sell certain assets of Bamfords to Forlink, a newly acquired subsidiary, on May 29, two days after a compulsory winding-up petition had been personally presented to Mr T. H. Launders, the company secretary.

Such a petition has the effect of making any sale of company property void unless the High Court orders otherwise. The chain of events leading up to the announcement began on May 13 when Gardner Steel, Birmingham steel stockholders, pressed for payment of parts of a total debt of £50,802. On May 21 Bamfords' shares were suspended on the Stock Market at 15p, 1p off the low for the year,

and valuing the whole company at £1.4m.

On May 23 Gardner presented the winding up petition, and on May 27 Mr John Tiplady, finance manager of Gardner, and Mr Brian Cove, Gardner's solicitor, drove to Dunster at Exeter to present the petition to Mr Launders.

On Thursday, May 29 the board of Bamfords met. Mr Launders was present as were Mr Stephen Adamson, of accountants Arthur Young, and Mr John Beatty of Hambros Bank.

Mr Hubert Burgess, the chairman, reported on three key proposals to be put to the board after discussions with an adviser from Hambros and Arthur Young.

These were to sell the business to a wholly-owned subsidiary which had not traded in order to maximize the realization of its assets; that the company should cease trading; and that the company should present its own petition to be wound up by the court under the provision of the Companies Act 1948.

The meeting was then adjourned to complete the acquisition of Forlink, and then it was reconvened and it was resolved that a petition be presented to the High Court for the company to be wound up and to apply to the court for the appointment of a provisional liquidator and a special manager.

The extraordinary general meeting of members of the company for June 19 was also organized to be immediately followed by a meeting of creditors.

In an affidavit Mr Leslie Riley, joint managing director of Bamfords, says that on May 30 application was made to Mr Registrar, Exeter, for the appointment of the Official Receiver as Provisional Liquidator and Mr Stephen Adamson, as Special Manager. However, the Official Receiver did not feel willing to act as Provisional Liquidator and the application was refused.

Mr Riley goes on to say that on May 30 it was learnt that "unknown to those involved in

the application a petition had already been presented on May 23, 1980 to the court for the winding up of the company by Gardner Steel Limited. It was appreciated that if the petition for the winding up of the company was presented, the winding up agreement could be avoided."

The winding-up agreement is the sale to Forlink.

Mr Riley's affidavit also refers to an undertaking given in 1978 to the Bank of Ireland to guarantee the bank overdraft and term loans of Bamfords (Ireland). He says that this indebtedness currently amounts to approximately £650,000.

The agreement for the sale to Forlink specifically excludes "all book and other debts owing to the vendor at the transfer date and all amounts owing to the vendor in respect of all goods or other assets, dispatched and invoiced on or before the transfer date and all deposits, prepayments and bills receivable by the vendor at the transfer date."

Mr Cove, the Gardner

solicitor, said yesterday he was extremely surprised at the board's actions as he and Mr Tiplady had personally presented the petition to Mr Launders.

Mr Tiplady confirmed that he and Mr Cove had driven to Dunster to deliver the petition. In addition he said on Sunday, June 1 he received a phone call from Mr Riley to discuss the petition. Gardner subsequently made it clear that it would not withdraw the petition.

Currently, Gardner is pressing for Mr Roger Hutton of the Birmingham office of accountants Coopers & Lybrand to be appointed as liquidator. Yesterday Bamfords put out an announcement saying that the directors would vote in favour of the resolution that the company be wound up voluntarily at the sign on June 19.

Frederick H. Burgess, the parent company of Bamfords with 59.8 per cent of the shares and also chaired by Mr Hubert Burgess, has also indicated that

it will vote in favour.

One side of the Bamford family ran the company until eight years ago when Mr John Bamford was chairman. His brother, Joe, left in 1945 and his new business partner, C. Bamford Excavators, he offered 75p per share for John's company.

But family feeling ran so high that to thwart the bid, John made 11 per cent of his company available to his major customer Frederick H. Burgess which in 1977 pushed up its stake to its present level by underwriting a much-criticized Bamford rights issue made well above the market price.

Last night Mr Beatty, of Hambros confirmed the May 29 meeting and the hive-down proposals involving Forlink. He said both he and any other professional advisers present were in ignorance of the winding up petition. Mr Adamson of Arthur Young also said he did not know of the petition at the May 29 meeting.

### Competition mainly from Taiwan and S Korea made it difficult to survive 200 lose jobs as Royal Stafford closes

The Royal Stafford China company in Stoke-on-Trent has closed its doors to become the latest victim of recession in the ceramic industry.

Two hundred workers will lose their jobs at the pottery as have more than 3,000 in the industry over the past two years.

Around 10 per cent of the labour force in the pottery business are on short time, losing at least one day's pay a week.

The industry has taken the brunt of escalating energy costs while trying to sustain a prominent presence in the export market where it is handicapped by a strong pound.

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of John Maddock which will transfer some of the product lines to its other

factory in Burslem, to try to make the product more competitive.

The products are English bone china. As an industry, its exports have increased in the past three years by £2.5m to £12m. But the rising value of the pound, coupled with the effects of inflation, have cut into that total.

Before the recession Royal Stafford exported 35 per cent of its output, of which 20 per cent was earmarked for the lucrative North American market.

Against competition, principally from developing countries such as Taiwan and South Korea, Royal Stafford found it increasingly difficult to survive in both foreign and domestic markets. Developing countries exploiting cheap labour have

provided an element which has been almost impossible to match.

Royal Stafford agreed a 16 per cent pay rise in March which, although low in comparison with many industrial awards, was to prove too high for the company.

Their soaring energy bill was to compound the problem. Each of Maddock's two factories making pottery uses a combination of electricity and gas which costs £200,000 a year.

The predictions of annual increases comparable at least to the level of inflation was a stiff working in the industry.

Royal Stafford going into voluntary liquidation. The industry is expecting that the next 18 months will provide little respite, particularly if the bank interest rate

is maintained at its present level.

Another reason for the plight of Royal Stafford is that the developing countries competing in the market are financially assisted by their governments.

Royal Stafford has confirmed that it has appointed Cork Gully as liquidator. The announcement of redundancies was made nearly two months ago, but there were hopes that something could be done. In the end nothing could.

Job prospects for the 50,000 still working in the industry are critical. Since January just over 30 companies have said that their labour force may have to be reduced in the coming year.

Bill Johnston

### Italians call for state chemical takeover

Milan, June 6—Executives of three chief Italian companies, Anic, Sir Chemicals Group and Liquichimica, have called for the state sector to take over Sir and Liquichimica, which are both in serious financial difficulties, as part of a reorganization of the Italian chemicals industry.

At the same time the propose that Montedison S.p.A., which is part-controlled by the state sector, should be reallocated to the private sector.

Anic is controlled by the state oil group ENI and the managers of the three companies said they would like to see Sir and Liquichimica come into ENI's orbit as well.

Both Sir and Liquichimica have been the subject of lengthy negotiations between banks and the Italian Government over plans to salvage them from heavy debts. No solution has yet been reached.

Anic, Sir and Liquichimica managers said they would like to see Anic take over Liquichimica, whose production is complementary to that of the state-owned company.

The managers said ENI could take a sizable shareholding in a consortium already set up to salvage Sir.

On the other hand, Montedison, the managers said, should be gradually handed over to the private sector, so the state and private groups could work together.

Montedison is controlled by a syndicate in which public and private shareholders have equal voting rights. The public sector shareholding is held by state groups IRI and ENI through a special holding company, Cogem.

Sir said it could be facing closure at the end of June if no government action is taken soon.—Reuter

### PRICE CHANGES

15p to 48p	Imp Cost Gas	16p to 84p
20p to 68p	Lat Ind	8p to 137p
13p to 72p	Nat Carbs	7p to 64p
10p to 17p	Selection Tst	8p to 25p
	Tube Ins	

48 to 18p	Miss Brds	5p to 25p
8p to 35p	Wine Ovens	7p to 11p
2p to 22p	Standard Chart	5p to 47p
4p to 50p	Weeks Petrol	5p to 48p
4p to 61p	W. Rand Cons	5p to 24p

Bank Bank Bank  
buys sells  
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30.75 29.00 116.00  
69.50 66.00 2.02  
2.72 1.65 9.60  
13.25 12.70 3.78  
8.88 8.48 2.38  
4.30 4.08 47.72  
101.59 96.50  
11.75 1.09  
1.13 1.09  
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537.00 512.00



## PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

## Grouse

If owner-occupation is still considered a desirable objective, not merely by prospective house buyers but also by governments of whatever political persuasion, then what are we to make of the uncertainty surrounding the ceiling of mortgage tax relief?

The House-Builder's Federation is right to call for clarification from the Government of its curiously vacillating attitude to the limit of tax relief. This remains at the £25,000 it was when the cut-off was first introduced in 1974.

The subsequent ravages of inflation, particularly house price inflation, mean that £25,000 is ludicrously out of date and many more people are being caught in this particular tax trap than was ever originally envisaged. A more realistic ceiling for tax relief today would be £50,000.

In opposition, and noticeably in the run-up to the General Election, the Conservative Party were committed to raising the level of mortgage tax relief. In the early days of office, too, the Conservatives stressed that the £25,000 limit ought to be reviewed.

Since then there has been silence on the part of the Government and much pressure from other quarters, economic and academic, for phasing out or abolishing mortgage tax relief altogether.

Undeniably there are arguments for restricting relief, just as there is a case for saying that it is the essential lubricant to a free-moving housing market. It is becoming increasingly important that the public particularly prospective house buyers, should know on which side of the fence the Government intends to sit.

## HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



## Practical pensions

## A better deal for job changers

If you change jobs to advance your career or because of redundancy, dismissal or just plain 'itchy feet', you will lose valuable pension rights.

The majority of modern pension schemes are now based on a fixed proportion of final salary—whether it be half your final salary or more generous two-thirds (the maximum allowed by the Inland Revenue). When you change jobs your pension rights from your old job will be based on your salary at that time; this is likely to be much lower than what you would expect to be earning by the time you retire.

Adding together your deferred pension from your old job and the new pension you will carry with your new one, will not put you on the same footing as if you had stayed with your old employer for the whole of your working life.

This is true whether you decide to take a "frozen" pension with your old employer in most schemes deferred pensions do not increase in value between the time you leave the company and retirement—or opt to transfer your pension rights to your new employer's scheme (assuming that he has one).

In the latter case employer number one will work out a transfer value he is willing to pay from the pension fund based on contributions so far. Then the second employer works out what level of pension he is prepared to pay out for that particular sum.

The problem with both frozen pensions and transfer values is that a pension fund manager will err on the side of caution in estimating what he will pay out in so many years hence by assuming conservative rates of interest.

If the funds were to prove

insufficient (because of generous assumptions) to meet his guarantee, he would have to make up the shortfall in pension either at the expense of the employer or by a subsidy from the pension fund to the detriment of other pension fund members.

But if you money in the pension fund earns more than the rate used to calculate your benefits on leaving your job, or money transferred to a new scheme earns over and above requirements, you will not normally see any benefit.

This raw deal for those changing jobs has led Mr Harry Verney, managing director of consultants Pension Advisers, to launch a Campaign for Better Pensions, a low-profile operation which, nonetheless already has the support of many people who have been financially hurt because of job changes.

"All that is needed," he says, "is a small change in the law. People changing jobs should be allowed to transfer pension payments as a single premium payment into a self-employed pension scheme run by an insurance company. Mr Verney is hoping to get a clause into the Finance Act at Committee Stage.

If he is successful, then rather than accepting a fixed pension on changing jobs, the prospective pensioner would be able to invest his transfer value in a with-profit or unit-linked insurance policy.

Although this might result in a lower guaranteed pension, the money would have some chance of keeping its value in the light of inflation.

The Occupational Pensions Board, which is looking at the subject of transferability of pension rights, is due to report

to the Government next year. But few people, Mr Verney included, believe that it is likely to offer any ready-made solution; and, even if it does, there is likely to be a time lag before any action is taken.

Mr Verney has plenty of ammunition for his campaign. Disillusioned people who have got in touch with him include one employee of 18 years standing who at the age of 41 was offered a frozen pension of £1,253 a year after he left, of which only £203 ranked for an increase of 3 per cent a year after retirement. On death after retirement his pension would amount to £701 a year.

As an alternative, he was offered a "transfer value" of £1,888—which happened to be

exactly what he had personally contributed to the scheme. For this, his new employer was prepared to pay only a fixed £1,206 a year or a dependant's pension of £603.

Neither of these options gives a return of much over 7 per cent—and he could have done much better with an insurance contract.

One problem which could arise from this "simple change of law" which the campaign is advocating concerns contributions to pensions. Company pension schemes and self-employed plans are governed by different sets of Revenue rules. While the maximum pension is related to final salary, the self-employed one is governed by the contributions paid. And

this is certainly seen as a drawback by the Superannuation Funds Office, the Revenue arm controlling pensions.

The success of this campaign would be good news for those changing jobs. It could also result in increased contributions required from those still paying into the scheme. If it results in more and more people taking transfer values then pension funds, which absorb the extra income earned from high rates of interest over and above those guaranteed on frozen pensions, will have to find the extra cash elsewhere.

Sylvia Morris

55 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3LY.



Mr Harry Verney, managing director of consultants Pension Advisers: campaigning for a change in the law.

## Round-up

## Repayment dates need watching

If you bought British Savings Bonds in 1975 any time between April 15 and October 1, you will shortly be receiving a little note from the Department of National Savings enclosing an application form for their repayment on October 1 this year.

Do not ignore it. If you are the kind of person who is full of good intentions and little action, fill up the application form now and send it off—it is the only way of making sure that you will not be leaving your money in a totally unproductive investment.

British Savings Bonds are being phased out, which means that there are no conversion terms available. Once your bonds mature (when they earn a 3 per cent bonus) and the last interest is received on October 1 for this batch of investors, there is nothing more in the kitty.

Extension terms have just been announced for the 14th issue of National Savings Certificates. The issue has had another year added (from June 17) increasing the value of the certificate from £1.50 to £1.70.

The return on the extra year works out at 10 per cent, equivalent to 14.3 per cent gross for a basic rate taxpayer. This is marginally below the 14.76 per cent gross equivalent yield on current 19th issue.

But that figure applies only if the certificates are held for the full five-year term. If you do not envisage being able to hold on for the full five years, then the extension terms are a better bet than converting to the 19th issue for a short time.

As a general point, when interest rates do begin to fall, be prepared to move quickly to put money into the 19th before it is withdrawn, as it almost certainly will be.

Old age has its benefits—witness National Savings Grains Bonds. Now Bank of Ireland, with six branches in the London area and more than 10 in the provinces, is wooing the over-60s with its Golden Years Club.

Provided that a minimum of £500 is kept on deposit (which is withdrawable on demand; not at the customary seven days' notice) an extra 1 point interest is earned, bringing the rate to 15 per cent.

## Travel

## Shopping around for fares

Shopping around with bulging carrier bags to save an extra few pence on butter or marmalade or to take advantage of a special offer can be an exhausting, as well as a rewarding business. Financially more rewarding but, scarcely less exhausting, is shopping around for holiday fares.

By the time one has dialled 28 numbers (some of which are almost permanently engaged) and worked out the intricacies of Apex as opposed to consolidation fares, the bonus of day travel, the bonus of staying at the airport in the early hours, a preference for Gatwick or Heathrow, or Manchester, the departure date options and so on, the mind is reeling. Have a pen and large notebook near at hand.

The chart with explanations of the various fares available should take some of the mystery out of the airlines' pricing policies without removing any of the fun of treasure hunting. The six European destinations popular for holiday makers seeking sun at this time of year.

My own quest for a couple of flights to Lanzarote, one of the lesser-known Canary islands, with a call to the national Spanish airline, Iberia, which offers an "economy" return flight to Arrecife for £378.

This is a day flight offering a flexibility of departure days and would suit a businessman who has to meet certain deadlines. There is also a budget fare (similar to Apex) for £163. A monthly excursion fare, which could also be used for a long weekend, would have cost £223.

I may hunt then switched to the advertisements on the back page of *The Times* and saw where in the middle of the *Evening Standard*. But even here prices vary enormously. I could have had flights to Arrecife at anything from £136 (low) to £35 (medium) to £72 (low).

Many telephone calls later and suffering from nervous exhaustion, I might have accepted any of these had it not been that we had to travel in the school holiday period, which is a need shared by some 90 per cent of the population it seems.

Finally, when none of the departure dates suited my companion rang to say he had found a flight from Gatwick to Lanzarote (Arrecife Airport) for £69.

When I called to collect the tickets from Spetse Holidays, which specialises in holidays to the Greek islands, I found that the tickets were part of a Thomson Holiday charter on a Britannia aircraft. The flight left on time from Gatwick, which is a good deal less crowded and much cleaner than Heathrow, and the whole note of economy was in a block served on board on a half size plastic tray.

For those who don't want to plan a July holiday in January, the cheaper fares offered by air brokers or non-ATA operators—unkindly called bucket shops—provide a good alternative. (And as tour operators are no longer able to hold their prices firm because of frequent increases in the cost of fuel, there is no longer the same incentive to pay large sums of money in advance.)

The cheaper flights—usually offered some six weeks or less before departure—may quite easily be day flights which have been sold off in a block by the tour operator who has failed to fill his charter.

There are also a number of discounts or cheap schedule airline fares, but these are hedged about with restrictions. These discount fares include Apex, which is valid for a round-trip and must be booked and paid for at least one month in advance. On cancellation, part or all of the fare is forfeited.

IT (inclusive tour) fares are those sold to individuals rather

than groups and should be sold with accommodation included. For this, his new employer was prepared to pay only a fixed £1,206 a year or a dependant's pension of £603.

Neither of these options gives a return of much over 7 per cent—and he could have done much better with an insurance contract.

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Sylvia Morris

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## Midsummer Madness at Sticklepath fayre

The community of Sticklepath has been much exercised with preparations for the Great Grimpen Mire Midsummer Fayre—the regular annual revivification of the village reflecting the theme of its new financial status on this occasion.

The fayre will be opened by Lord Trite of Cricklewood, President of the British Industrial League for Gainful Endeavour (BILGE), in spite of protests and a threat of mass picketing by Kevin Ludite, chief shop steward at Allied Elderberry Wines. As an oblique compromise, effigies of a wide range of public figures with financial connotations—such as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the General Secretary of the TUC, the Chairman of the Stock Exchange and a number of particularly ill-performing unit trust managers—will be placed in the village stocks to be pelted by all and sundry on an ad hoc basis throughout the day.

A large number of sideshows are planned, including Guess the Weight of the Institutional Cash-Flow, Bowling for the Piggybank, Lucky Share Certificate Number and Roll-a-Kruggerand. The bottle stall is expected to carry a preponderance of tomato ketchup jars from the village stores, plus a large consignment of slightly

over-the-bill Broompetal-and-Rhubarb '58, kindly donated by Lieut-Col. Rudolph Grog-Bevington, who discovered it the other day during spring-cleaning at Allied.

The white elephant stall will be manned, if that is the word,

by Lady Baskerville, and will comprise the famous collection of stuffed white elephants shot by Sir Henry Baskerville in South-east Asia in the 1950s. Meanwhile, at the Post Office, Mrs A. B. B. will be exhibiting another important local

collection—National

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**Diamond International and Cavenham Development Inc** have agreed in principle on the tender offer by Cavenham for Diamond.

The agreement, subject to final negotiation and approval by directors, has a five-year term and provides for limiting the investment by the Cavenham group, its associates and subsidiaries, to about 40 per cent of Diamond's stock.

Diamond said that upon execution of a final agreement, Cavenham will increase its offer to \$42 per Diamond share from the present \$40 if Diamond's planned acquisition of Brooks-Scanlon is approved.

—Reuter.

## Kraft and Dart

Kraft Inc and Dart Industries have not yet reached an agreement on the terms of the exchange for the Dart preferred stock which is convertible on a one-for-one basis into Dart common stock.

However, the two companies expect that each share of Dart preferred stock will be exchanged in the merger for one share of common stock of the company.

• In the discount market yesterday, a substantial sum earmarked for the final call on the Treasury 13½ per cent stock 2004/08 secured a tight bid to what has otherwise been one of the most comfortable weeks for credit for some considerable time. The Bank of England, which had mopped up surplus credit on all earlier days of the week, was eventually required to give the market moderate assistance. Secured loans hovered around 16½ per cent for much of the day, although the rate did get down to 16 per cent at one stage, before closing firmer again at 16½ per cent.

# Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 7 1/2%  
 (Last changed 16.12.79)  
 Bank of Canada Discount Rate 10%  
 Discount Rate 10%  
 Weekend Rate 10%  
 WREF Fixed: 10%  
 Treasury Bill: 10%  
 3 months 10%  
 6 months 10 1/2%  
 12 months 11%

Formal Bank Bill (12%): Treasury: 12%  
 3 months 12%  
 6 months 12 1/2%  
 12 months 13%

Official Authority Bonds  
 3 months 12 1/2%  
 6 months 13%  
 12 months 13 1/2%

Commercial Paper  
 3 months 12 1/2%  
 6 months 13%  
 12 months 13 1/2%

Local Authority Markets  
 3 months 12 1/2%  
 6 months 13%  
 12 months 13 1/2%

Treasury Bill: 10%  
 3 months 10%  
 6 months 10 1/2%  
 12 months 11%

[illegible]

With no fresh factors developing in the foreign exchange markets yesterday, currencies moved narrowly throughout in very quiet pre-weekend trading. The pound ended a touch better at \$2.3220 (overnight \$2.3310) after reaching \$2.3560-75 momentarily in early dealings. The dollar fluctuated narrowly throughout and tended to ease in late trading following monetary policy cuts to 13 per cent by market leader Citibank and others, bringing them into line with Thursday's reductions. The rise in United States wholesale prices made little impact.

2000-2001	Market values			
1991-1992	1992-1993	1993-1994	1994-1995	
New York	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Amsterdam	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Bremen	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
London	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Duisburg	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Frankfurt	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Leipzig	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Munich	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Paris	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Stockholm	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Vienna	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115
Zurich	\$2,328,430	\$2,348,325	\$2,368,220	\$2,388,115

## Sterling: Other Markets

[illegible]

	RYT control RYT	current RYT	% change from control RYT	% change from control adjusted	1976-8 RYT
Belgian franc *	36.2507	40.7107	+12.1	+6	1.00
French franc	1.7230	1.7571	+2.0	+1.5	1.00
German mark	5.5364	5.5822	+0.8	+0.7	1.00
French franc	5.4700	5.5314	+0.6	+0.6	1.00
Dutch guilder	2.4382	2.5021	+2.6	+1.4	1.00
Irish punt	6.8200	6.9700	+2.2	+1.0	1.00
Italian lira	2137.79	2151.94	+0.6	+0.5	1.00

Gold fixed: \$m. \$266.00/ounce: per, \$27.60  
 price, \$261.00.  
 Copper: (per cent): \$616.620 (\$264.00-  
 246.00).  
 Sovereigns (per): \$122.134 (\$25.00-66.00).

calls, 94-104\* rec'd date, 94-95; one  
month, 94-95. In the 1900's, 94-95; one  
month, 94-95.

With the stock market holding firm, traded options activity produced a total of 832 contracts. Following the highs

### Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]



# Stock Exchange Prices

## Bear squeeze

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 2. Dealings End, June 13. Contango Day, June 16. Settlement Day, June 23  
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

Low Stock				High Stock				Low Stock				High Stock			
Price	Change	Yield	P/E	Price	Change	Yield	P/E	Price	Change	Yield	P/E	Price	Change	Yield	P/E
<b>TISHFUND</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>MINES</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>FINANCIAL TRUSTS</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>INSURANCE</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>PROPERTY</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>RUBBER</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>TEA</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>															
178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100	178	100	100	100



# Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing



Pro-tec Eyeguards with narrow, lens-less apertures, small enough to prevent a squash ball hitting the eye. About £5.95 from Harrods, Lillywhites, Selfridges and branches of Bernard's World of Sport.



Not all mass-produced prints fill me with much hope for the future of our suburban walls. Could you have faced Tretchikoff's green lady over your breakfast bacon day after day? I would have been reduced to weak tea and dry toast long since—yet it sold and sold and sold.

At Boots, however, there is now a very attractive collection of prints in rather subtle moody colours and with a distinct Art Deco look about them. They are by a 24-year-old Chinese artist, Shao, who studied at the University of California and has had exhibitions at Santa Barbara, Houston and the Indiana museum.

There are six pictures, all of women in various flowing gowns and poses and, grouped together in twos or threes, they make very pleasing decor, plainly and elegantly framed. The sizes are 16½ in square, or 32 x 16½ in, and priced at £14.95 and £29.95 respectively. They are at all larger branches of Boots.



Action Eyes by Bausch and Lomb, one of the newest developments in eye protection with shatterproof polycarbonate lenses. About £13 from Harrods and Lillywhites.

Photographs by Peter Akehurst

I wonder if papier mache would have had such a vogue if we had bothered to translate it? Chopped paper does seem to lack a certain durability, not to say digestibility; it's no wonder it went out of fashion after Victorian times.

It had not occurred to me that anyone was now using it seriously as an art form until I met Ann Jasper. Until then I had assumed that it was largely used for theatrical props, Chinese masks and keeping the children occupied on wet afternoons.

But Ann, originally a theatre designer, graduated to papier mache after a spell at the College of Furniture four years ago. She decided that interior design was not really what she wanted to do and turned instead to making little houses, rather on the lines of the eighteenth century china cottage.

Then suddenly, she says, it just took off, getting bigger and bigger in her attempts to see just what could be done with paper on a large scale; and so she achieved her first "castle in the air".

She has a famous precedent in Charles Frederick Bielefeld, one of the most remarkable papier mache makers on record, who had his works at 15 Wellington Street, Covent Garden. When the House of Lords was erected in the Pantheon, Grocers Hall, after the fire of 1834 he made a canopy for the throne there. Later he made a canopy for the state bed at Chatsworth.

Fifty years earlier, according to Jane Toller in her book *Papier Mache in England and America*, a man called Charles Lewis Ducrest of Jermyn Street had taken out a patent for making paper for the building of houses, bridges, ships, boats and all sorts of wheeled carriages, sedan chairs, tables and book cases, either of paper or wood and iron covered with paper.

He laid down specifications for constructing houses as a series of boxes, each made separately and joined to its neighbour by iron bolts—a sort of early pre-fab.

Bielefeld went one better. He made a whole village for a man who wanted portable houses to take to Australia. Ten cottages and a ten-room villa were built and assembled at Staines for shipment.

He had not reckoned with our English weather. Torrential rain flooded the place and left the paper village standing in two feet of water. But such was the strength of Bielefeld's pasted paper that it withstood its soaking and went off to Australia undamaged.

The use of papier mache was certainly not confined to Victorian times, from which we still see examples of trays, screens and boxes. It was used in cabinet making in the seventeenth century and extensively for applied mouldings in the eighteenth century—a method used by Robert Adam in 1756.

Japanese papier mache, at first known as *Pontypool*, was became well established in Birmingham and Wolverhampton, which remained the centre of the trade. At the height of trade between 1850 and 1855 they were using 300 tons of raw material annually at £25 a ton. Apprentices worked 60 hours a week with the possibility of 20 hours overtime at a penny to fivepence an hour. And it was not until 1860 that trade began to wane because the heavy crinolines tended to knock the delicate little chairs and tables flying.

Ann Jasper has no illusions about the time that needs to be devoted to her craft and no doubt sympathizes with those overworked apprentices. She makes her basic shapes with tubes and layers of paper and paste and then covers them with papier mache pulp, which all has to dry before she can paint them.

The resulting castles are enchanting. They are made on

Perhaps the only people who are not short-sighted about eye protection in sport are the myopic. Being unable to see 12 inches in front of your nose without spectacles makes you wary of anything that might damage your lenses. I certainly was never happy on skis until I started to wear contact lenses. The idea of falling on my face and having glass in my eyes had a distinctly unattractive effect on my turns.

Now, of course, plastic lenses remove a great deal of the worry but they are not enough protection for fast ball games, particularly squash. Last November, in *The Times*, Trevor Fishlock drew attention to the fact that a squash ball is small enough to slip between the eye's only defences of brow and cheek and, travelling at speed, could burst the eyeball.

At that time, there were no eye protectors on the British market specifically designed to prevent such accidents. Now there are at least two, a padded visor without a lens and a spectacle-type protector with polycarbonate lenses.

The visor, called the Pro-tec Eye-

guard, has been sold in America for four years. It fits closely round the eyes and is made of clear polycarbonate which will not shatter if struck—riot shields are made from the same material. An adjustable elastic strap keeps it in place and bads relieve any pressure on the brows and nose. The aperture is small enough to prevent a squash ball striking the eye.

The spectacles are a recent development called Action Eyes by Bausch & Lomb. They are in an ophthalmic frame with a band at the back to keep it in place, and both frame and lens are made of polycarbonate. As with the Eyeguards, they are claimed to be shatter-proof, the lenses are mounted in deep seated grooves of industrial safety design.

I tried both eye protectors on squash-playing friends—I should emphasize that eye damage can be caused in other sports, too, but I am concentrating on squash because of the size and speed of the ball and because of the increasing number of people who play it.

The verdicts were that the Action

Eyes were rather more comfortable than the Eyeguards and did not restrict the vision as much as they did not come so close to the eye. The wrap-round style of the Eyeguards made the wearers conscious of something between them and their game, while they adjusted easily to the Action Eyes even though they were not spectacle wearers. The disadvantage of polycarbonate lenses, however, is that they scratch easily, so you have to take particular care.

As with other commodities you get what you pay for. Action Eyes are beautifully made but at around £13 are considerably more expensive than Eyeguards at £5.95 from Harrods and £5.50 at all branches of Bernard's World of Sport.

Not all the experts agree on the efficiency of eye protectors. The Squash Rackets Association have tried many types and have not yet found one that they are prepared to endorse. Most, they say, obscure peripheral vision, which is a vital factor in the game.

They deny that they are complacent about injuries and are in fact in regular communication with hospitals and manufacturers to try to make the game as safe as possible. They are well aware of the dangers involved in the ball flying off a racket at an oblique angle and acknowledge that it is not uncommon for the racket to fly out of the player's hand.

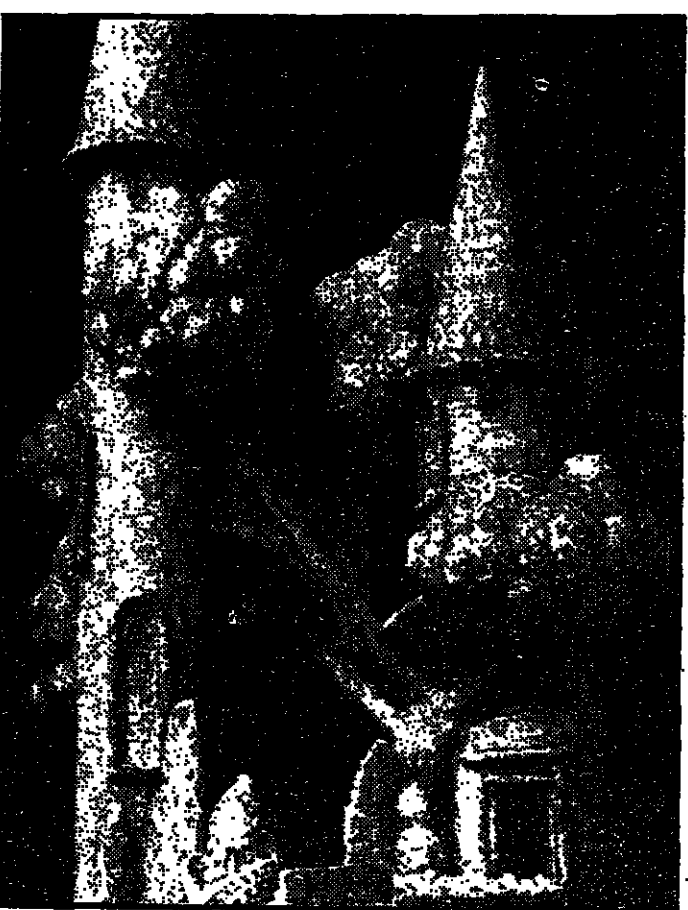
But they point out that in the United States, where many people are seriously injured at squash—despite the rule in some clubs that eye guards must be worn—a ball made of rubber but with the consistency of a golf ball is used. They also say that some eye guards being promoted for squash were specifically designed for racketball and would still allow the smaller ball used in squash to pass beyond the defences.

If you are in any doubt about the wisdom of eye protection you should consider the opinion of Mr. James L. Kennerley Banks, ophthalmic surgeon and consultant to the Western Ophthalmic Hospital, Marylebone.

"People think glasses can be dangerous, but any form of glasses prevent more injuries than they cause. Those who wear prescription glasses should have plastic lenses for all sports, and even for those who do not need glasses eye protection is also very important."

"I have had to deal with many sports accidents and obviously the ones involving a hard ball—golf, hockey and squash—are the most dangerous. Water polo is another but many players wear swimming goggles which give protection. Squash injuries are nearly always severe and in my experience have nothing to do with the player's ability. I have known a first class player lose his eye."

In showing you the two eye protectors illustrated I am not taking sides. Both have minor disadvantages, but until the perfect eye protector is developed £5 or £13 seems very little to pay for the protection of something as precious as an eye. It may never happen, but if you should be one of the unlucky ones you can't go back and change your mind.



Fantasy Castle in the air in papier mache by Ann Jasper. £350 at Craft Village at Bourne's in Oxford Street, London, W1.

a turntable so that you have the feeling of being able to go right into and through them and you really wouldn't be surprised to come face to face with Cinderella fleeing down the steps or Rapunzel leaning from a turret.

The price, around £350, represents a great deal of time and effort and you may still say, but what is it for? Perhaps though, some of you may agree with me that, just occasionally,

it is pleasant to have something totally useless in one's life—something that is sheer fantasy and follows absolutely no preconceived ideas of what a decorative object should be. View them as a child might, get your imagination ticking and you might see what I mean.

Ann Jasper's work is on view on the fourth floor of Bourne's Craft Village. Other inquiries to the artist at 19, Stow Road, Stow-on-the-Way, Cambridgeshire.



country that makes marketing men's eyes revolve like fruit machines and this is Doulton's fastest growing market. They recently won an order from Singapore Airlines, who are replacing their Japanese china with Royal Doulton.

From such a wide range it is impossible to choose a design that will please everybody, but the one that seems to have come closest to doing so is Royal Albert's Old Country Roses, the best-selling design in the world. Last year they reached their 50 millionth piece.

Royal Albert have been producing their country garden china since 1893. The designer of this particular pattern, Harold Holdcroft, joined the company in 1934 with the specific aim of producing a best-seller.

"We decided to incorporate all the ingredients that we knew would be acceptable—richness of colour, softness of colour, good quality and good value."

The design of rich red roses and pale tea roses, green leaves and gold sunple was not

acclaimed enthusiastically by the shopkeepers when it was introduced in 1962, but Royal Albert were not daunted. They positively forced the design on their retailers with an aggres-

Above centre: Old Country Roses

by Royal Albert, the world's best-selling bone china pattern. The coffee pot costs about £15 and the tea cup and saucer about £4.

Ful dinner, tea and coffee services are available. Stockists include Lawleys of Newcastle-under-Lyme and Regent Street.

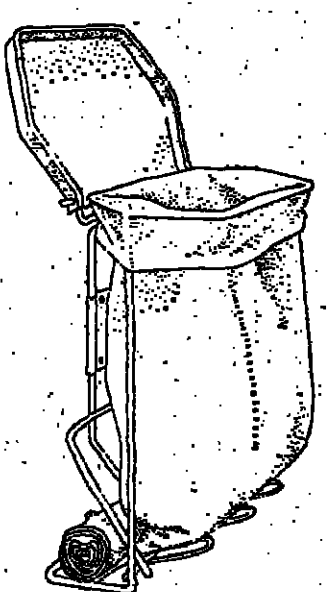
London, W1, and also Selfridges, London W1.

sign that would not come amiss in some of today's salesmen, and as soon as the design appeared in the shops the customers snapped it up.

I particularly like this story because it proves two points—first that retailers are not always the best judge of what will sell and second that the public only recognize what they want when they see it. You have to show to sell.

Doulton had faith in the product and the determination to make it sell. But they also had superb craftsmen and women who between them created something that has proved to be a remarkable best British seller.

Two for lightweight travelling—below a holdall in parachute nylon with a zip top, £5.99 in red, blue, yellow or black. Left, a holdall garment bag for men which opens flat to accommodate suits. £15.99 in black or blue, both trimmed with tan. Both from branches of Salisburys.



Extrufix and it has changed my life. With a name like that might imagine I was into snuffing. You would be w

Extrufix is a waste rack although it cannot be as beautiful I have drawn for you.

It fixes to the back cupboard door and is a wire rack with a tray bottom and a wire mouth a plastic lid on the top of plastic bin liners sits on tray and you pull each one and tuck the open end of the mouth. When a bag is simply lift it out, tear the perforation and tuck new bag into place.

There are more stream, rubbish containers, but take up a lot more room than this one, which fits snugly to the back of an av

room for a bucket. Including your first roll of liners, it is £2.50 a good less expensive than other or flip top bins. Replace rolls of bags are available 99p for 30.

Stockists for the Extrufix include Keyman at Alton, Canterbury, W1 and Norwich. Supasave Mansfield, Chesterfield, Bury and Carver at Ford, Minworth and East

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